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THE TIMES

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Bernard Levin looks into the eating business, page 18

Fears for life of former Italian Premier after kidnapping

Aldo Moro, five times Prime Minister of Italy, was oped by left-wing terrorists yesterday. He was seized ghtning attack on his car in a Rome street, in which his guards were killed. Responsibility was claimed by the Red Brigades terrorist group, whose leaders are now on trial in Turin. They said Signor Moro, who is chairman of the Christian Democratic Party, was a hostage but fears were expressed for his life.

Five bodyguards killed in Rome street ambush

ter Nichols
arch 16
ng terrorists today ser a bloody ambush me street which saw ldo Moro, the most figure in Italy's ruling Democratic Party, ff a prisoner and his of five men left lying.
ost incredible of all Italian kidnappings about an hour before sitting was about to Parliament. The was due to debate a confidence in a new Democratic Govern- orted by the Commu- gnor Moro, a former ister, is chairman of and was the chief of this controversial

ficiency and coldly s nature of the kid- eaves no doubt that erformed by highly xperts. A witness have heard one of the order to make their victim in a ear. Another passer- ed that orders were erman.
the three cars used bush had false diplo- s. Five or six pur- involved, including a

ained in front of the ich Signor Moro was en from the church visits each morning. aro's car pulled up t nevertheless struck taining some of the They opened fire on d on the car behind his bodyguards were

esses state that the an with a long burst m Russian-made auto- ons. Signor Moro's d no time to give the radio, and telephone ion with the area n. About 50 empty cases littered the s after the kidnap-

mbers of the body- killed instantly and ed later in hospital.

Signor Moro's attackers also used a powerful motor cycle. They were dressed in the uniforms of Alitalia airline officials. One of them dropped his peaked cap which was lying in the road close to Signor Moro's briefcase and a pistol which had fallen across a stream of blood.

Further evidence of careful planning was adduced from the slashing of the tyres of a lorry belonging to a florist who was delayed from setting up his stall as usual at the time of the attack.

Immediate reactions were quick. The trade unions called a general strike to last for the rest of the day. Workers in essential services, including journalists, were excluded from the protest. Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Prime Minister, called a Cabinet meeting.

The Red Brigades left-wing extremist group, whose leaders are on trial in Turin, claimed responsibility in a message to a Milan newspaper which stated: "This is the Red Brigades. We have carried the attack to the heart of the state. The hostage is in our hands. Long live the Red Brigades."

Despite the fact that the message speaks of Signor Moro as a hostage, fear was expressed for his life. The kidnappers' shooting would have had to be extremely accurate to kill or mortally wound all the occupants of the two cars while leaving Signor Moro unhurt. Anxiety is also caused by Signor Moro's physical condition. He has been in poor health for some years and suffers from low blood pressure.

Investigators tonight estimated that there may have been as many as 12 terrorists involved in the attack. Apart from the occupants of the two cars and the motor cyclist it seems that there was another group waiting on foot for the arrival of Signor Moro's car.

The car in which Signor Moro was driven away after the kidnapping has been found. There are traces of blood on the seats but, according to unconfirmed reports, it is not of Signor Moro's blood group.

This would suggest that one of the kidnappers was injured and there are corroborating reports that the pistol lying in the road belonged to one of the members of the bodyguard and that three shots had been fired from it.

Another report says that the pistol or pistols used by the terrorists may be of Czech manufacture and similar to the weapons used in three Turin killings claimed by the Red Brigades.

The report identifies the ammunition as of Russian manufacture. If this point is confirmed it will be the first time that a Soviet connexion, however tenuous, will have been made in Italian political killings.

The first shock of the news brought demands for emergency measures. Signor Ugo La Malfa, the Republican leader, was heard demanding martial law, a curfew and the reintroduction of the death penalty.

Signor Andreotti looked uncharacteristically ill at ease as he made his speech. After he had been speaking for 20 minutes there were growing signs of impatience in the House which culminated in angry interruptions, first from the extreme right and then from the Radical leader, Signor Marco Pannella.

They were vigorously called to order but the impression given to the country which was watching on television was of a failure by Parliament to rise to the seriousness of the situation.

The chamber decided to compress its debate into one day in order to be able to give its vote of confidence to the Government tonight.

Moro profile, page 7
Italy's new breed, page 18
Leading article, page 19



The body of one of Signor Aldo Moro's guards lies in the road after the kidnapping.

Israeli objective of buffer zone is now achieved

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, March 16

The Israelis now have their buffer zone in southern Lebanon, at least 250 square miles of foothills and scrubland and ruined villages with scarcely a Palestinian unit still in action inside them. This, except for the occasional isolated action by Palestinian guerrillas, was the Israelis' objective and tonight it seems fulfilled.

Israeli aircraft were still in action today well inside the frontier area, strafing and bombing the large Palestinian refugee camp south of the old port of Tyre and Palestinian positions near Hasbaya beneath Mount Hermon.

Israeli troops are now in Mansoura on the Mediterranean coast south of Tyre, in Beit Jubil, Khiam and Ibl al-Saki. These villages were depopulated by guerrilla fighting months ago and seem scarcely worth notice on the map, but for the Palestinians they have assumed the military importance once given by the Allies to obscure French villages in the First World War.

The Lebanese daily *An Nahar* today carried a front-page map of southern Lebanon, with Israeli occupied territory coloured in pale blue and stretching right up to the Litani River beneath Beaufort Castle and on into the Arkoub.

There were no signs today that the Israelis were planning any further advance, but Syrian tanks were manoeuvred on to an embankment above the road running north from the Arkoub —the route the Israelis would probably take if they wanted to drive to Damascus through Lebanon.

Meanwhile there was the backwash of Arab protest and internal condemnation.

Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, whose guerrillas were the stated target of the enormous Israeli operation in the south, today asserted that the United States and Israel had cooperated in planning to hurl "these hordes" into southern Lebanon.

Mr Arafat's suggestion came as no surprise; ever since the American Government decided that the PLO was unlikely to make a suitable peace negotiator in the Middle East, the Palestinian leadership has been open in its condemnation of the United States and in its belief that President Carter's Government has conspired with the Israelis against the PLO.

In Syria, the Government newspaper *Tishrin* included President Sadat of Egypt in the

Continued on page 8, col 5

Trickster takes a Black Sea cure

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 16

A Soviet "minister of public works" walked into a tailor's shop in Sochi, the Black Sea resort, with two suits to be altered. He looked tired and ill but spoke with an air of authority. The shop assistants hastened to oblige: ministers do not usually visit such shops in person, and the work was completed the same day free of charge.

The minister returned to his luxury hotel suite and ordered the deputy director to bring him caviar, crabmeat and packets of imported cigarettes. As thanks he offered the director a suit—which he refused—and then, changing his mind about the caviar, took instead 162 roubles (£124) from the hotel.

The minister was a familiar figure in Sochi where he went regularly for free cures in a sanatorium. An Intourist car was always at his disposal. At the luxury seafood shop, Ocean, everyone knew him. He used to order caviar, salmon and tins of fish delicacies produced for export.

In fact he was so demanding that he bought the entire stock. But the shop employees

Continued on page 8, col 1

Government cautious over injuries scheme

By Marcel Berlins

A scheme to compensate people injured in road accidents through no fault of their own; a £4-a-week allowance for all severely handicapped children, including those damaged by vaccine; and an improved and extended industrial injuries scheme were among the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury in a report published yesterday.

The Prime Minister said in the Commons that the Government would study the recommendations with "care and urgency", but emphasized that one of the factors to be taken into account was the possibly considerable cost of implementing the proposals.

The commission, under Lord Pearson, concludes that the tort system—bringing action in the court for damages for injury—should continue, but made suggestions for its reform, including the abolition of actions for minor injuries, the effect of which lasts less than three months.

The "no fault" compensation scheme should be financed through a levy raised by increasing the price of petrol by 1p a gallon.

Richard Allen writes: The insurance industry cautiously welcomed the commission's findings, but the response to some proposals was noticeably mixed.

Mr Geoffrey Haslam, chairman of the British Insurance the main composite companies, said last night the companies were willing to talk to the Government on the subject of periodic, rather than lump-sum, compensation payments and "particularly on the question of inflation-proofed awards where the difficulties are recognized by the commission."

Lloyd's said: "The proposition poses enormous problems in that the plaintiff will become a pensioner of the defendant with the pension reviewable upwards but not downwards."

Drug victims, page 2
Report, page 4
Parliamentary report, page 16
Leading article, page 19

Mr Callaghan takes teachers to task

By Staff Reporters

As the Prime Minister yesterday criticized teachers for taking protest action after referring their dispute to arbitration, more schools were forced to close because of unruly behaviour by pupils left without supervision at lunchtime.

Mr James Callaghan said in the Commons: "When I was a trade unionist, it was the principle that when a matter had been referred to arbitration, you awaited the verdict of the arbitrators before you took action."

Teachers' refusal to supervise lunches and other school activities has led to a wave of pupil unrest. In one Warwickshire school, 50 children, including girls, who barricaded themselves in a classroom were each given two or three strokes of the cane yesterday.

Twenty-four of the 30 pupils who barricaded themselves in a classroom at Sir Harold Wilson's old school, Royds Hall secondary school at Paddock, Huddersfield, on Wednesday, were each given two strokes of the cane. Four others who refused punishment were suspended and the other two have not returned to school.

The caned children were aged from 12 to 16 and included four girls.

Three schools in Telford New Town, Salop, were closed for a "cooling off" period after education officials had said control over the pupils had been lost. A Leicester school was closed because its headmaster said, the pupils had been acting like hooligans.

Police officers were called to the school after a window had been broken and a girl injured by glass. At Huyton, Liverpool, a schoolboy was arrested for alleged breach of the peace when about two hundred pupils demonstrated against the teachers' sanctions. Stones were thrown at a police car.

At Canvey Island, Essex, council staff were locked in their offices for protection when 300 children attempted to storm the building in protest against meal sanctions imposed by teachers at Furtherwick Park Secondary School.

The pupils demonstrated outside the school and then marched over a mile to the Castle Point District Council offices, where they battered on windows, chanting and shouting. The police marshalled them on to the pavement and they went back to school, singing defiantly.

In Belfast yesterday the police questioned 25 pupils of Ashfield Grammar School about incidents on Wednesday when it was alleged that pupils from the school went on a rampage in Holywood, co Down. Between 60 and 70 pupils were estimated to have been involved. Some summonses are to be issued.

Teachers at some Norfolk schools relaxed sanctions yesterday so that children should not be turned out into the snow during the lunch hour. At Hartsease

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said yesterday: "I deplore the type of hooliganism that has occurred in one or two places, but it will not make us alter our plans at all."

The teachers involved in the sanctions have opted to go to arbitration after rejecting a 9 per cent pay offer. No date has yet been fixed for the arbitration to begin. Some teachers' leaders believe that sanctions would be discontinued once arbitration is under way.

Retribution day, page 2

) die in crash as w sweeps Britain

were killed and injured, four of usly, when a works turned in a snow- e bottom of a steep Daventry, Northamp- esterday. It crashed h.
who died were Mr rd, aged 52, and Mr ran, aged 23, both ord Halse, near
ent was on the main ry to Banbury road. nd injured, all pas- the coach, were on ome after the night e British Timken tory at Daventry.
were particularly he border areas of d, in England, in uth of a line run- h Birmingham and
re, Leicestershire, e and Northampton- th falls up to eight suffered badly, as omerset, Gloucester- orth Norfolk.
st, the third day of l Hunt meeting at was cancelled. The Gold Cup was the ty.
Cup and *Daily* Triumph Hurdle, so lost, will be run
ards called for an at 7.30 am and ip Arkwright, the the course, said: hree inches of snow rse. We have no to abandon the
s for the two can- s will be reopened,

which means that all ante-post wagers on the two races will be declared void. Stake money will be returned.

Snowploughs and snowblowers were used to clear roads in Avon, Somerset and Gloucestershire. In Gloucestershire many Cotswold villages were cut off. Main roads, including the A40, Cheltenham to Burford, the A635 Cheltenham to Cirencester and the A46 Bath to Stroud roads were blocked.

Speed restrictions were imposed on many motorways, including the M5 and M4.

To the north-east the A1, M1 and M69 were badly affected. In some areas blizzards reduced visibility to less than 40 yards.

A spate of accidents in the Midlands included a seven-vehicle crash on the A452 near Coventry and the blocking of a road into Birmingham when a beer lorry jacknifed.

Banbury and Chipping Norton, in Oxfordshire, were cut off by snow or by lorries which jackknifed on treacherous hills. The police stopped all traffic on the A34 near Woodstock to warn drivers that they could not get through to Chipping Norton.

Many bus services were cancelled and hundreds of children could not get to school.

In London morning rush-hour traffic was brought almost to a standstill.

Snow and sleet were heavy all over East Anglia, with falls of about six inches reported.

In Scotland, two to three inches of snow fell on most areas in the border counties. Farther north the A9 was blocked south of Kingussie in the Highland Region.

Forecast, page 2
Photographs, pages 3 and 9

£1m 'lucky dip' manuscripts sale in 280 crates, some unopened

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The dispersal of the great library formed by Sir Thomas Phillipps (1792-1872), which has lasted for almost a century, came nearer completion with the announcement yesterday that the remaining manuscripts had been sold en bloc to Mr H. P. Kraus, of New York. The price is believed to be about £1m and Mr Kraus sounded convinced yesterday that he had a bargain.

The hoard contains between 38,000 and 40,000 items packed in 280 crates. Mr Kraus told me that it would take five years to sort, research and catalogue.

Two groups of manuscripts were not included in the Kraus purchase and have been acquired by the British Library for an undisclosed price. The first is the Privy Purse accounts of Henry VII for the years 1502-05, the second the chamber accounts of Henry VIII from Michaelmas, 1533, to Michaelmas, 1534. The Henry VII accounts are of great importance; the king's accounts at that time were essentially the nation's accounts.

Phillipps was a bibliomaniac who nearly bankrupted the book trade of his time by failing to pay his bills and whose ambition was to have "one copy of every book in the world". His family began to disperse the library in 1886 and continued to sell piecemeal through auction and private sales up to 1946.

The rest of the library, stored in crates long unopened, was then acquired by Philip and Lyonel Robinson, the bookseller brothers, for £110,000. It was rejected at that price by both the British Museum and Harvard library.

Most of the printed books were dispersed by the Robinsons privately; the manuscripts have been sold in a series of Sotheby sales totalling about £3m.

The Robinson Trust has only one more important collection on its hands, about 50,000 British charters and court rolls. It is believed that the British Library has declined to buy them because the items concern local history and should properly go to local authorities and museums. The trust said yesterday that they would probably be sold in the next year or so.

As with the Robinsons' purchase of 1946, Mr Kraus has only the vaguest idea of what his acquisition consists of. A star item is the thirteenth-century illuminated manuscript of *Launcelot du Lac* with 109 miniatures.

"The 280 cartons have taken over the house", Mr Kraus said yesterday. "We cannot walk in or out." Some cartons he has not yet opened but he has found a ninth-century manuscript of Aristotle, 146 letters signed by Napoleon, Lord Elgin's correspondence between 1801 and 1816, more than a hundred papal bulls of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, an archive of the great Colonna family of Rome, not to mention some 15,000 letters exchanged between eighteenth-century Italian scholars in 228 volumes.

More sale room news, page 20

Money growth up but trend is more moderate

Latest Government figures indicate that although the mid-winter bulge in monetary growth has moderated the year will end with money supply growth rather higher than the intended 13 per cent ceiling. The first 10 months' figures show growth at an annualized rate of nearly 14.7 per cent. There was a negative public sector contribution last month, but bank lending in the private sector rose by £371m

Page 27

New Rhodesia talks

Senior British, American and Rhodesian officials meet in Pretoria today to discuss the possibility of a new conference involving all the parties in the Rhodesian conflict. Its aim would be to bring together those who attended the Malta meeting last month, notably the Patriotic Front, and he signatories of the internal settlement

Page 8

Belfast assailants hit

A soldier and two civilians were injured in a shooting in west Belfast when a member of a parrol in plain clothes was attacked by two men. The Army said that other members of the patrol opened fire and hit both assailants

Page 2

Court Line finding

A Department of Trade inquiry into the collapse of the Court Line travel and shipping group in 1974 has accused four directors of "a serious dereliction of duties". They are said to have retained profits from a private company, which should have gone to Court Line

Page 27

Britain helps combat equine VD

British experts have arrived in Kentucky to help to combat an outbreak of equine venereal disease, suspected to have been introduced by French horses, which is threatening the valuable bloodstock industry in the state. The normal movement of breeding stock has been restricted and new regulations have been imposed

Page 8

Longest space flight

Lieutenant Colonel Yuri Romanenko and Mr Georgy Grechko landed safely in the Soviet Union on time to complete the longest space flight. Their space station, its systems put into "moth balls", continued to orbit under automatic control

Page 8

Cubans in Eritrea

Diplomatic sources in Addis Ababa expect a large-scale Cuban involvement in the war in Eritrea after the end of the Ogaden fighting by regular forces. Some Cuban troops are said to have arrived in Asmara and to have already begun making contact with the insurgents' positions surrounding the city

Page 8

Strasbourg: European Parliament votes to keep EEC farm price rise to 2% 6

Venezuela: A six-page Special Report to mark the visit of the Prince of Wales 21-26

Lucas cutback: Lucas Industries is to close five factories, with the loss of 2,000 jobs, in its aerospace division 27

In 'The Times' tomorrow

A profile of Graham Greene by V. S. Pritchett on the occasion of the publication of Greene's new novel, *The Human Factor*, will be published in the Saturday Review tomorrow. Other articles include reviews of new travel books, including the *Good Hotel Guide*, an interview with Ronald Harwood, the author and playwright, a report on the International Crime Writers' Congress in New York, and a commemoration of the thousandth anniversary of the death of Edward the Martyr. *The Times*/Halifax index shows the change in house prices in February

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Leading articles: Challenge of terror in Italy; Civil liability
Features, pages 14 and 18
Charles Hargrove assesses the main contenders in the French elections
Arts, page 15
William Mann on *Elektra* in Cardiff; Ned Chaillet on *Thee and Me* at Lancaster; David Robinson on *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and other new films in London
Sport, pages 9 and 10
Racing: Fort Devon may miss the Grand National to run in postponed Cheltenham Gold Cup; **Badminton:** top seeds beaten
Business News, pages 27-33
Stock markets: The FT Index held firm to close 4.4 better at 458.3. Gilts were also steady
Financial Editor: Missing the point on money supply?; British Petroleum beyond the setback; Court Line: a lesson learned?
Business features: Michael Grylls suggests that a timetable should be set for British Leyland's profitability

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estic air to rise to 12%

mestic air fares are between 5 and 12.5 m April 1, the Civil uthority announced

ases include a rise he £30 single fare n to Glasgow, Edin- restwick. An airport of £1 will be in the new fares.

r fare news, page 6

in crash of Tan plane

March 16.—A Tu134 he Bulgarian Balkan ed in north-western day killing all 73 board. It was on a ht from Sofia to

1.75m papers lost in overtime ban

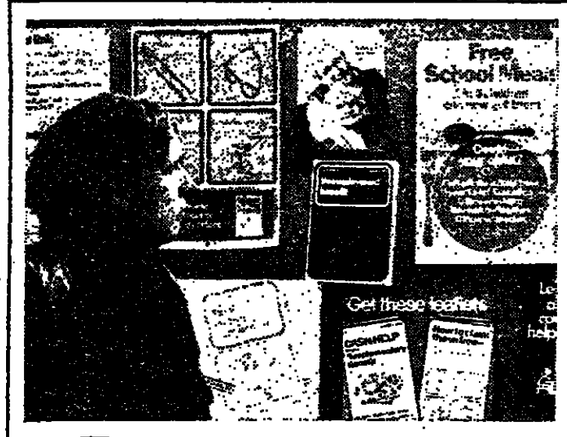
By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

About 1,750,000 copies of national newspapers were not distributed in the London area yesterday because of an overtime ban by a thousand staff who work for wholesalers.

The dispute between drivers and other distribution workers, and the Federation of London Wholesale Newspaper Distributors is over a claim for enhanced overtime payments.

The Newspaper Publishers Association met representatives of the federation yesterday to express their concern at the effects of the dispute, which has lost more than 2,900,000 copies in two days.

The staff involved, members of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, want higher overtime rates in addition to a rise of a tenth already offered by the employers.



The Government has countless schemes to help the low paid maintain their standard of living.
Who's going to help you maintain yours?

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We've been helping people like you protect your capital and savings against inflation for some forty years now.
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Take our High Yield Fund for example. Between July 1974 and December 1977 the cost of living rose 72%. Those who held those units saw their gross income from this fund rise by 78%.
We wouldn't like to imply that we could always repeat that performance, nor that it solved all the financial problems of the unitholders concerned.
But it does show how our range of funds and schemes could give your capital a chance to fight back against inflation.
While we'd like you to join us, we'd rather you first sought the impartial and expert advice of your professional adviser.
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For it's jolly unlikely the government will.

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HOME NEWS

Civilians stop doctor from tending two assailants in Belfast

From Our Correspondent
Belfast

A soldier and two civilians were injured in a shooting in west Belfast yesterday when a member of a patrol in plain clothes was attacked by two men.

The shooting, soon after lunchtime, occurred at the junction of Glen Road and Ramoan Gardens. According to army sources the patrol was walking up Glen Road when two men crossed over to it and grappled with one of the soldiers, throwing him to the ground. The Army says one of the men fired at the soldier, wounding him. The other members of the patrol opened fire and hit both assailants. A group of civilians prevented a doctor from tending the assailants, who were taken to hospital. Neither is seriously wounded nor were the soldiers. It is believed that a third man was involved.

Troops were quickly on the scene and they found two rifles loaded and cocked in a house nearby. Two young children are understood to have been alone in the house at the time.

A 50lb bomb left in a dustbin in a cemetery in the same area was defused yesterday by an army expert. Two men are being interviewed by the police.

The incendiary explosion that burnt 12 people to death in the La Mon House atrocity has been reproduced by the police. They say it was powerful enough to destroy a fleet of buses. The fund launched for relatives of the victims of the disaster closed officially today at £140,000.

Speech for diplomats: Opening a campaign to highlight the Dublin Government's attitude to cross-border terrorism official Unionist party headquarters in Belfast has posted dozens of copies of a hard-hitting speech by Mr John Taylor, former Northern Ireland Minister of Home Affairs, to all embassies in Dublin.

The decision to give them the Unionist side of the controversy started by recent interviews given by Mr Jack Lynch, the republic's Prime Minister, to the media, comes after Mr Lynch's decision to summon ambassadors to hear a defence of his anti-terrorist record.

Mr Taylor, in his speech, made to East Down Unionists on Wednesday night, said the Dublin Government stood guilty for its contribution to the continued campaign of murder and destruction in Northern Ireland. He called on Fianna Fail and Fine Gael, the Irish opposition party, to agree to a new united approach in their relations with Ulster.

US condemnation: Eighteen prominent American democrats have issued a St Patrick's Day statement on the continuing terrorism in Northern Ireland (the Press Association reports). The signatories include nine senators, among them Mr Edward Kennedy, Mr Thomas Eagleton and M Georrge McGovern. Seven Congressmen who signed include Mr O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

They renounce any action that provides support or encouragement for those engaged in violence and condemn the violence of all individuals and extremist groups. The 18 say they are concerned over reports that some Tmericans are still providing assistance to what they ccall "the enemies of peace in Northern Ireland."

Many interviewed dislike sanctions but feel their hand was forced by employers

Teachers angry at being undervalued and overworked

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Mr Derek Chant, aged 48, is a graduate teacher in an inner London comprehensive school with 26 years' teaching experience. He gets to school at 8.30 am and rarely leaves before 5.30 pm. Last week he did not get home until after 11.30 pm four nights running because of school meetings. He earns £6,400 a year.

"You might think £6,400 is a lot", he said yesterday. "But I have friends with similar qualifications who are getting £14,000, plus a company car, expenses and other fringe benefits. I do not even get an allowance for an evening meal when I work late."

He argues that teachers are underpaid and undervalued and that society will not get the quality of education it says it wants until it is willing to pay salaries that will attract the best brains and best quality people into teaching. "And, by golly, we do need good teachers at the moment."

Mr Chant is not a union militant. He is not even a union member. He is one of very few among the 100 teachers at Highbury Grove School who are not taking part in the sanctions called for by the two largest teachers' unions, the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

He believes that the sanctions are wrong, are of dubious value and are harming at least some of the children. Only the first-year children among the 1,300 pupils at the school are continuing to receive school lunches. The others are being sent out of school during the lunch-hour, although they will be supervised in the classrooms of they bring sandwiches.

Mr Chant, who is one of six housemasters in charge of pastoral care, says some children are going without a cooked meal all day as a result of the sanctions. Others are going home and not returning to school in the afternoon.

About 200 pupils in their third, fourth and fifth years tried to stage a demonstration by the school railings at the end of the lunch-hour yesterday, chanting: "We are on strike! We are on strike!" until they were sent back into their classrooms by teachers who had resumed thir official duties at 1.30 p.m.

Many of the teachers with whom I spoke at Highbury Grove were unhappy about operating sanctions, but felt that their hand had been forced by the cavalier attitude adopted by the employers. The 9 per cent pay offer has been taken as a slap in the face. Most said they would be happy to settle for a 10 per cent rise. They do not want to break the Government's pay guidelines.

Mr Ernest Bayliss, aged 60, a member of the NUT and a housemaster at the school earning about £6,000, reflected the views of several others when be said: "I am fighting not because we are underpaid but because we are entitled to the same increase as has been applied across the country. We have been singled out because they feel we have no industrial muscle."

A recent survey by the National Foundation for Educational Research showed that the average teacher worked from 9 am to 6 pm during the term, allowing half an hour for lunch. Nearly two fifths of a teacher's work was done in his or her own time during breaks, the lunch-hour and after school hours.

If weekend and holiday work was included and if that total was spread over a 48-week year (allowing four weeks for holidays), it turned out that a secondary teacher's working week lasted 40 hours, or 43 hours if a 45-minute break was allowed for during the term.

That compares with an average working week of 38.7 hours for white-collar workers. Average earnings of full-time white-collar workers, male and female, last April were £88.90 a week or £4,674 a year. The average salary of a teacher is £4,500.

The action being taken by the teachers at Highbury Grove is fully supported by the headmaster, Mr Lawrence Norcross, who is an active member of the NAS/UWT. He says he very much regrets having to take such a step, but feels that it is necessary. Mr Norcross, who is 50 and earns £9,000 a year, is the successor at the school to Mr Rhodes Boyson.

"We are almost the only group left that is expected to put a kind of professional morality before self-interest", he says. "No one is surprised when doctors and others take industrial action, but teachers are expected to subjugate self-interest altogether."

£90,000 raised in Gouriet case

More than £90,000 has been raised by the National Association for Freedom since February 17 to pay the costs of the Gouriet case.

Mr John Gouriet, the association's campaign director, will be able to pay on March 31 the full legal costs of the Silkin-South African postal boycott case. The costs were incurred after the Law Lords had ruled last summer that the Attorney General alone had the power to implement the law.

Murder charge retrial

Anthony Wright, aged 28, accused of murdering Michael Holden, an actor, must be retried, Mr Justice Willis decided at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. He discharged the jury when it failed to return a verdict after being out for four hours.

Mr Wright, a general dealer, of Warner Road, Nunhead, London, was alleged to have caused Mr Holden's death by cracking a soda siphon on his head in the Rose and Crown public house, Old Park Lane.

Charges over dog death

David Thomas Fensom, aged 25, of Stevenage, Hertfordshire, was committed by Stevenage magistrates yesterday for trial on six offences in connexion with the death of a dog that was thrown from the parapet of a bridge at Julians Road, Stevenage, into the path of an express train.

Pupils face retribution after a brief revolt

By Arthur Osman

It was a day of retribution yesterday in some Midlands schools for pupils who demonstrated against the teachers' sanctions. Scores of children were caned.

At Polesworth school, Warwickshire, 50 children, including girls, who had barricaded themselves into classrooms for up to four hours, were each given two or three strokes of the cane. Two members of the fifth form were suspended as the alleged ringleaders and will be brought before the governors.

At Solihull, west Midlands, Mr Robert Fulton, head of Tudor Grange Comprehensive School, caned 20 boys and put several girls into detention for an unauthorized walk-out. "There seemed no justifiable reason for their playing truant so I decided to take tough action", he said.

An undisclosed number of children at Sandwell, West Midlands, were caned after a demonstration that led to three youths being arrested at West Bromwich.

More than 2,600 children at Telford, Salop, will not resume school until Monday. The county education department, after talks with head teachers and the local police, decided to close the schools for a "cooling-off" period because of disturbances involving the pupils of three schools.

Mr K. Pattinson, head of one of the schools, Abraham Darby, said: "In my view television coverage, particularly from the Birmingham area, exacerbated the situation and encouraged the children."

In Staffordshire three leading members of the county council made a joint protest to teachers that they were causing hardship to pupils and some parents.

At Stoke-on-Trent 200 children marched to the education officer and handed in a petition with 600 signaroures calling for the teachers' pay demands to be accepted.

Members of the Birmingham young socialists organization distributed leaflets in the Northfield area urging children to join the National Union of School Students. The leaflets said: "School students have rights, too".

A recruiting meeting has been called for next Tuesday in a building normally used by shop stewards at Leylands' Longbridge plant.

Tim Jones writes from Cardiff: The line of boys standing outside the headmaster's office at Barry comprehensive school yesterday afternoon maintained that they were unwilling participants in the wave of disturbances which have swept schools in Wales since teachers began their sanctions.

The boys at Barry had been called to account for their part in lunchtime incidents in which pupils smashed 17 windows while unsupervised by teachers. Mr Teifion Phillips, the headmaster, described the pupils as mischievous rather than vicious.

A third-form pupil waiting reluctantly for his encounter said: "Some other boys started throwing stones and we just followed them. It's over not having any dinner."

In fact the school has been supplying dinners almost normally. The pupil was ignorant of the issues involved and could not name the teachers' unions that were taking sanctions.

Outside the school, another pupil, who also refused to be named, said: "We don't like school, and it's nice to run around".

In spite of his reluctance to give his name the boy's parents will learn today of his proclivities, for the headmaster has sent letters to them explaining what the pupils had done and the disciplinary measures taken against them.

A fifth-former at the school, Michael Thomas, aged 15, said: "The pupils who cause the trouble were led by a hard core who are always challenging the teachers. All they want to do is to get out of school and any excuse to cause trouble is used by them. Normally discipline here is good".

Local authorities in Wales have been attacked by the biggest teachers' union in the principality for their "bloody-minded attitude" in refusing to employ more meal supervisors.

Mr Gwyn Jones, Welsh committee chairman of the National Union of Teachers, said the education authorities should "pay for more supervisors or face the consequences. Their own attitude was largely to blame for the trouble at some schools this week.

His views, shared by most teachers in Wales, was that for too long the authorities have taken advantage of teachers' willingness to work for nothing.

The teachers reject suggestions that they have a moral obligation to supervise school meals. They say that it is only because of their dedication that school authorities have been able to "shirk" their responsibilities for so long.

The disturbances in Welsh schools are likely to be investigated by a committee set up by the Welsh Office to investigate behavioural difficulties among Welsh schoolchildren.

Welsh children leave school less qualified than their English counterparts, and special conferences have been called to study the causes.

Ronald Kershaw writes: Pupil power in the North appeared to wave yesterday and education officials seemed to think the advent of the aster break was largely responsible. Leeds education department said that on Wednesday four Leeds schools had disturbances, but yesterday only one incident was reported.

About twenty pupils refused to return to school after the lunch break but were quickly persuaded by teachers to return.

Head teachers at the trouble spots earlier in the week identified pupils who were known trouble-makers. Most were due to leave school today and it was thought they were having a last defiant Hing before leaving.

Man has typhoid

Mr Philip Hughes, aged 28, of Portfield, Haverfordwest, was in hospital in the town last night with typhoid fever. The area medical officer said there was no evidence that others had been infected. Mr Hughes had recently returned from Nigera.

Jail for torturers of wealthy businessman

Four men said to have tortured a wealthy businessman they had kidnapped for a £500,000 ransom were jailed at Manchester Crown Court yesterday.

Judge Sir Rudolph Lyons said "Had he not been rescued I cannot help wondering whether he wluld ever have been seen alive again."

He jailed Mohammed Kahn, described as the ringleader if the plot, for 12 years; Gul Fiaz, for 10 years; Mohammed Iqbal for nine years and Rashid Ahmed for eight years.

Mr Kahn, aged 20, of Borrowdale Avenue, Guthrie, Cheshire; Mr Fiaz, aged 24, of Norfolk Court, Blackburn; Mr Iqbal, aged 24, of Whalley, Blackburn and Mr Ahmed, aged 24, of Oldcastle Avenue, Withington, Manchester, were convicted of offences involving kidnapping, false imprisonment, blackmail and robbery.

Mr Rhys Davies, for the prosecution, said Mr Sabur Rahman, of Grasmere, Gatley, was snatched outside a friend's home last June and bound and gagged.

He was robbed of his watch, £2,750 and $1,000 and ke't prisoner in a cupboard for 11 hours. His life was threatened and one of the men demanded a £500,000 ransom. But Mr Khan telephoned to the police and confessed.

Court rules stretched for Mr Wedgwood Benn

West London magistrates stretched court rules yesterday so that Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, could give evidence and not waste his time.

He had been summoned as a character witness for Mrs Audrey Wise, a fellow member of the Tribune Group, who denies a charge of obstructing a police officer outside the Grunwick film processing plant last summer. As the defence is to submit that there is no case to answer, no defence evidence is allowed under court rules.

Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, for the defence of Mrs Wise, said Mr Benn had taken valuable time to attend the court hearing and give evidence.

Mr Benn was finally allowed to give evidence after waiting 40 minutes

The prosecution said that after Mrs Wise had been told to leave the demonstration at Grunwick she grabbed a police sergeant's arm and the officer was trapped between Mrs Wise and a girl he was struggling with.

The hearing continues today.

Government will help children injured by drugs

By Our Political Staff

The Government is to give priority to a scheme to help children who have been disabled by drugs or vaccination, Mr James Callaghan told the Commons yesterday. Ministers have been asked to prepare a scheme of payments for severe damage caused by vaccination for introduction soon after Easter.

Mr R. Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby, yesterday published his private member's Bill for "no fault" compensation to road accident victims, the scheme being financed through vehicle insurance.

Parliamentary report, page 16
Leading article, page 19

Threat to ex-Servicemen's unemployment benefit

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Hundreds of Servicemen who are still without jobs after being made redundant by the 1975 defence cuts face the threat of being unable to draw unemployment benefit.

Their fate rests on next month's reserved judgment in a test case brought in the Divisional Court by the Ministry of Defence.

The ministry is urgently considering what steps to take if the judgment goes against it and has sent a circular letter to all redundant Servicemen warning them of the position.

Last year a retired RAF officer found himself barred from receiving unemployment benefit because the special capital payment he received on being made redundant was held to be in lieu of earnings for the next 12 months. He won his case before a local appeals tribunal at Torquay last September, but that was overruled by the National Insurance Commissioner. The ministry backed his appeal in the Divisional Court.

It is concerned because many Servicemen volunteered for redundancy in good faith after the manpower cuts of 1975, attracted by the special payment, which for officers is equivalent to 18 months' gross pay.

The letter sent to all those concerned explains: "The Ministry of Defence has always believed that the special capital payment made to redundant officers and Servicemen was not a payment in lieu of future remuneration. But the National Insurance Commissioner has ruled that it is.

"In these circumstances and until the pending appeal is heard there is uncertainty that unemployment benefits will be allowed to ex-service applicants who have eft on redundancy."

The uncertainty is worrying scores of ex-Service people who, having had one career prematurely ended have wanted to take their time over choosing their next one, especially as suitable jobs are hard to come by.

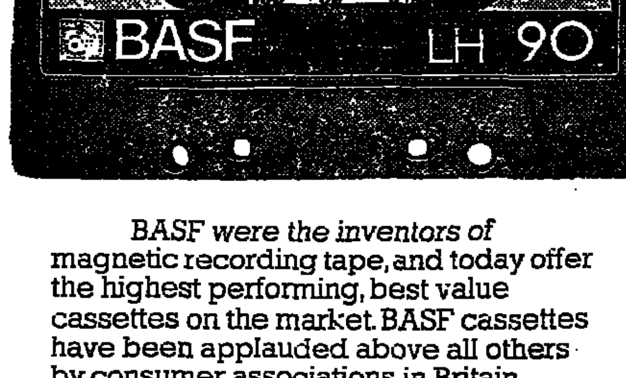
One officer, Major Jeremy Bastin, aged 37, of the 15/19 Hussars, whose redundancy takes effect from the end of this month, said at his home at Okeford Fitzpaine, Dorset: "The question of redundancy money being held against us in this way was never voiced when the terms of our leaving the services were first laid down.

"It is a disgrace, the way that we have been treated by these people. The lower ranks are particularly affected because they find it mode difficult to get another job.

"This is just another example to fuel the flames of discontent which are already high enough in the Services."

The Department of Health and Social Security explained that while the right to unemployment benefit was not affected by statutory awards made under the Redundancy Payments Act, that did not apply to "golden handshakes". Unemployment benefit is paid for only one year, anyway, after which application has to be made for supplementary benefit if help is needed.

SPOT THE CASSETTE CHOSEN BY CONSUMER ASSOCIATIONS



BASF were the inventors of magnetic recording tape, and today offer the highest performing, best value cassettes on the market. BASF cassettes have been applauded above all others by consumer associations in Britain, America, Germany, Holland and France.

BASF
SPOT-ON SOUND

Education chief to chair Schools Council

By Our Education Correspondent

Mr John Tomlinson, Director of Education for Cheshire, is to be the next chairman of the Schools Council for curriculum and examinations, Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the Commons yesterday. The post is unpaid.

Mr Tomlinson, who is 45 and one of the most highly considered of the 104 chief education officers in England and Wales, will take over on April 20 from Sir Alex Smith, who has resigned the chairmanship to devote more of his time to his work as Director of Manchester Polytechnic.

Canon George Tolley, principal of Sheffield City Polytechnic, has been appointed chairman of the board of management of the Further Education Curriculum Review and Development Unit, in succession to Mr Tomlinson.

Mr Tomlinson is married, with four children.

Move to save wallabies

A campaign has been launched by naturalists to save a colony of wallabies in north Staffordshire.

Doctor exposes death toll among asbestos workers

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Seventy-three of 262 workers identified two years ago as suffering from asbestosis after having worked at an asbestos factory at Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, had died, a doctor concerned with the disease said yesterday.

In a lecture at the Royal College of Physicians yesterday Dr Bertram Mann, a consultant chest physician at the Royal Halifax Infirmary, said the factory had been closed by the company that owned it in 1970, when the workforce was about 2,200.

The 12 per cent of the labour force who had developed asbestosis compared with a 1.05 per cent certified incidence of the disease found in the same company's factories throughout the United Kingdom.

The figures probably under estimated the true position because several former employees had emigrated, Dr Man said.

Six members of one family had contracted the disease or died from it, and it was clear that there was a real hazard to people not directly engaged in handling asbestos.

Eleven people who had worked as gardeners, office workers and lorry drivers had contracted asbestosis. here had been fou rcases of early disease in patients who had never worked at the factory. But all four had lived within two miles of it, down wind, for 25 years or more.

The average interval between initial exposure and the development of symptoms of asbestosis was more than 17 years, Dr Mann said.

Dearer Hansard

The price of the daily edition of Hansard, the official report of the House of Commons, is to be increased in April from 33p to 40p and the weekly edition from 90p to £1.10, it was announced yesterday. The Lords' daily Hansard will go up by the same amount, the weekly edition from 65p to 80p.

Waiter jailed for hotel arson

Arnold Sanderson, aged 33, a waiter, said to have set fire to a seaside hotel eight times because he had a grudge against salesmen guests he thought were making advances to his wife, was jailed at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court yesterday for seven years.

Mr Sanderson, of West Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, now divorced, denied eight charges of arson at the Rex Hotel, Whitley Bay. He said he had no grudge against the company

Scarf caught in fan belt

Ann Miller, aged 18, of Burpham, Surrey, was nearly suffocated yesterday when she raised the bonnet of her car and her scarf became entangled in the fan belt. She was taken unconscious to hospital, but recovered later.

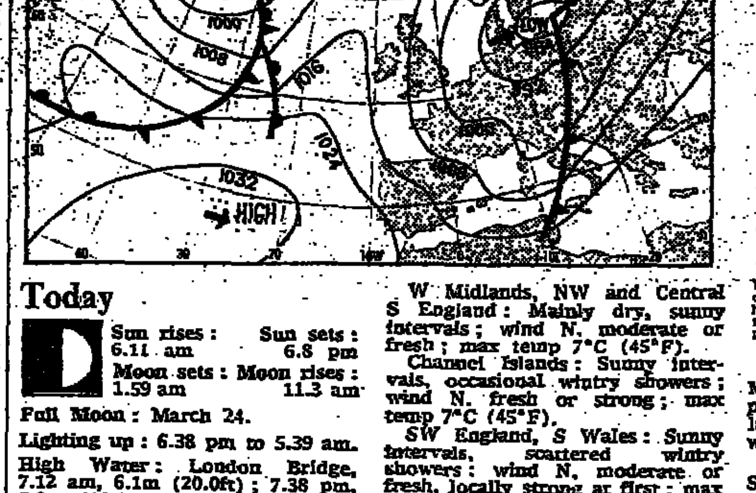
Fresh inquiry into plan to demolish listed building

By Our Planning Reporter

The complex procedure for preserving historic buildings has been given an added twist by the Government's decision to reopen a public inquiry into the proposed demolition of Netherdale Farmhouse, near Birchington, Kent.

The decision follows a recent High Court judgment in which Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, was criticized for disregarding an inquiry inspector's recommendation that the building should be retained. At the inquiry, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, which owns the farmhouse, had appealed against Thanet District Council's refusal to consent to its demolition.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half cl... cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; h—hail; m—mist; ... th—thunderstorm; ... periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 6.11 am. Sun sets: 6.8 pm
Moon sets: 1.59 am. Moon rises: 11.3 am
Full Moon: March 24.

Lighting up: 6.38 pm to 5.39 am.

High Water: London Bridge, 7.12 am, 6.1m (20.0ft); 7.38 pm, 5.9m (19.4ft). Avonmouth, 12.11 pm, 9.6m (31.5ft). Dover, 4.20 am, 5.3m (17.3ft); 5.2 pm, 5.1m (16.7ft). Hull, 11.20 am, 5.5m (18.2ft). Liverpool, 4.30 am, 7.2m (23.6ft); 5.8 pm, 7.0m (23.0ft).

A cold N airstream covers the British Isles.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, E Midlands, Central N England: Sunny intervals, occasional snow showers; wind N, fresh; max temp 6°C (43°F).

East Anglia, NE, E and SE England: Wintry showers, especially near E coast, sunny intervals; wind N, fresh or strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

W Midlands, NW and Central S England: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind N, moderate or fresh; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, occasional wintry showers; wind N, fresh or strong; max temp 7°C (45°F).

SW England, S Wales: Sunny intervals, scattered wintry showers; wind N, moderate or fresh, locally strong at first; max temp 8°C (46°F).

N Wales, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland, Isle of Man: Bright or sunny intervals, scattered wintry showers; wind N, moderate or fresh, backing NW; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Lake District, Glasgow, SW Scotland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind N, moderate or fresh; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney: Bright intervals, sleet or snow showers; wind N, fresh or strong, becoming NW and moderating; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Shetland: Bright intervals, snow showers; wind N, fresh or strong; max temp 2°C (36°F).

Outlook for the ...: Mostly dry, with sunny ... probably a little rain in ... later; becoming less ... with frosts at night.

Sea passages: S N... Strait of Dover, English Chan... (E), St George's Chan... Sea: Wind N or NW, ... gale; sea high.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max ... 6 pm, 8°C (46°F); min ... 6 am, 2°C (36°F). Humid... 47 per cent. Rain, 24hr ... .64in. Sun, 24hr to 6 ... Bar, mean sea level, 6 ... millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow:

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	17	63	Cardiff	f	5	41	Jersey	c	5	41	Naples	f	14	57
Algiers	s	31	70	Cologne	c	8	46	L Palmas	s	20	68	Nice	c	14	57
Amsterdam	r	5	41	Copnhagn	r	4	39	Lisbon	f	15	59	Oslo	sn	-7	19
Athens	s	17	63	Dublin	c	4	39	Locarno	r	5	41	Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	c	11	57	Edinburgh	c	4	39	London	c	4	39	Reykjavik	s	1	34
Beirut	s	7	45	Florence	f	15	59	Luxembrg	c	5	41	Rome	f	16	61
Belfast	r	5	37	Funchal	f	16	59	Madrid	f	10	50	Ronaldsway	c	1	34
Berlin	r	10	50	Geneva	c	9	48	Majorca	s	16	61	Stockholm	sn	-6	21
Biarritz	c	9	48	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malaga	s	18	64	Tel Aviv	s	17	63
Birmingham	r	5	41	Guernsey	f	5	41	Malta	s	18	64	Venice	c	11	52
Bristol	f	5	41	Helsinki	sn	-9	16	Manchester	f	5	41	Vienna	f	11	52
Brussels	f	8	46	Innsbruck	f	11	52	Moscow	f	6	43	Warsaw	c	11	52
Budapest	s	12	54	Istanbul	r	10	50	Munich	f	13	55	Zurich	c	11	52

Overseas selling prices: Austria, Sch 18; ... Canaries, Pes 60; ... Finland, Fmk 3.25; ... Germany, DM 2.00; ... Holland, Dfl 2.00; ... 6.00; Italy, Lire ...; ... Norway, ...; Spain, Pes 60; ... Switzerland ... $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 24.

The reading machines show their paces

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Britons bought more ... 3,000 million drinks ... machines last year, as ... a variety of cigarettes, ... crisps and pantie-hose ... hibition to celebrate ... steady advance in vending ... nology" opened yesterday ... the Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, London.

"The days are gone", ... hibitor said, "when if you ... lucky and did not ... change the machine ... squirt you by delivering ... and no cup."

But one pretended ... industry was yet free from ... panies. "Instant tea ... machines is really pre... rible stuff", an exhibitor ... "Unless it is really ... would not want to drink ... all. We do use real ... as well, but it has to be ... than you would ever ... packets in the home, to ... the machines. You could ... is dust".

What he offered instead ... lemon tea, made with ... tea and realemon, "... lemon is processed and ... to make it instantly ... you would not actually ... nize it". Lemon tea, he ... the third best selling ... after coffee and hot choc...

Lemon tea is not the ... est stretch of the ... machine's capabilities ... also provide hot meals ... pull cans.

"In America", I ... "there are about 140 ... you can get in hot can ... vending machines. ... them are pretty ... Here we are up to 16, ... include a good variety ... things as Madras beef ... and chili con carne."

There are though ... 400 hot-can vending ... at work in Britain ... two food companies, ... Libby's and HP-Smedley ... up special formulations ... them with meals ... being stored at 150° ... week to 12 days.

What happens if ... longer in the hot ... manufacturer's repre... said. "They sort of ... to become a grey-brown ... The meat dries out ... fibres, and the rest ... homogenized."

Few exhibitors see... ing to take their own ... ments from the ... bar outside did a ... and at several stands ... told that the gentle... could help me ... stepped out for a bite".

I did, however, ... representatives about ... vending machine ... Times newsroom ... rejects what seems to ... fectly good 2p piece.

"These things ... finely adjusted before ... leave the factory", I ... at one stand. The ... that when they get ... everybody with a ... screwdriver thinks ... how to adjust it better."

But at a second stand ... told & "There is a ... field in the machine ... tests the metallic ... the coin, and rejects ... not right. The trouble ... the Royal Mint ... nickel content of ... recently.

You pay your money ... you take your choice, ... of course, if the machine ... not spit your money out

هكذا من الأصل



...bs, such as these at Churchill, near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, fared badly in yesterday's snow, but the woman on her way to Epping station in Essex and traffic on the A11, near Epping, found the going hard (another photograph, page 9).

...fety law ...ll bring ...nocracy ...ndustry'

...Labour Editor

...appointment of 150,000 ...nion representatives on ...dhealth in October ...g a bit of democracy ...ritish industry, Mr Len ... general secretary of ...C, said yesterday. The ... will have the legal right ... safety representatives ...mbers of joint safety ...ees in factories.

... will not take over ...ment's responsibility ...th and safety. They will ...ad persuade manage- ... do their duty. They ... discuss with managements ...n needed to stop risks ... into tragedies".

... TUC has trained ... of unoin officers and ... teaching kits have been ... and a handbook on ... safety at work has ... than 200,000 copies.

... Murray told manufac- ... protective equipment ... would be a growing ... for their products.

Cabinet to decide on engineering claim

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Cabinet ministers are to discuss an appeal lodged jointly yesterday by engineering unions and employers for permission to breach the pay restraint guidelines for about 30,000 low-paid workers.

Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, met leaders of the Confederation of Shipbuilders and Engineering Unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation for talks on the industry's provisional deal that lifts minimum rates for 1,250,000 workers, improving basic pay for craftsmen from £42 to £60 a week in two stages.

At issue is a clause, inserted in the agreement at the union's insistence, that obliges employers to implement the new rates immediately. For a small minority of the labour force that would involve a breach of the 12-month rule and the 10 per cent limit on wage rises.

Mr Booth said he would have to consult senior Cabinet colleagues over the wage package and the decision is not expected before the end of next week. Privately, the employers do not expect ministers to accept the union's case.

Mr Hugh Scanlon, president of the engineering workers' union, expressed disappointment that the minister had not approved the new agreement, which, under the industry's two-tier collective bargaining system, affects only guaranteed rates, leaving most negotiations to domestic plant level. The unions are convinced that the agreement does not breach the income policy, while Department of Employment officials insist that it does.

If, as seems likely, the Cabinet refuses to permit even a tiny minority to escape the income policy, an undetermined number of the six thousand companies in the employers' federation will face local claims to get the rates introduced.

Building workers: Building employers yesterday made an offer within the guidelines of £7 to £7.50 a week to union leaders of 700,000 building workers, who said it was unacceptable. Negotiations will be resumed on March 29.

Double pay for May Day claimed

By Our Labour Editor

The first celebration of May Day as a Bank holiday looks like being expensive for national newspapers. Printing union leaders yesterday submitted a claim for double pay and a day off in lieu for 30,000 newspaper workers in Fleet Street and Manchester, arguing that last year's publication on the Queen's silver jubilee had created a precedent.

A union negotiator said: "If it was good enough for the Queen, it is good enough for the workers."

The Newspaper Publishers Association is to reply in about ten days' time. Its initial response is that the claim goes beyond present agreements and cannot be conceded. Mr Adrian Ketterer, labour relations director of the NPA, said a bargaining impasse over the demand might stop national newspapers on May 1. The unions want double pay covering 24 hours from 4 pm on April 30, about £30 for most workers for one shift, in addition to a day off.

Communists to seek broad left alliance

By Craig Seton

The new programme of the Communist Party of Great Britain, launched yesterday, foreshadows the continuous development of a broad democratic alliance of the left leading to possible unity with, and affiliation to, the Labour Party.

The British Road to Socialism visualized closer links with the Labour when it appeared in draft last year. It is the first important revision of the party's programme for 10 years and caused something of a schism within party ranks during months of discussion. More than 2,500 amendents were submitted and some members described it as "revisionist" and "social democratic" in tone and objective.

The rift came to a head last year when a breakaway New Communist Party was created. Yesterday, Mr Gordon McLennan, the party general secretary, denied that there was a serious split and said the new party had taken away no more than 2 per cent, or about 400 or 500 members of the party.

The launching of the document was coupled with an open letter from the party to the Labour Party and labour movement, giving warning of the danger of the return of the most reactionary Conservative Party for decades at the next election.

The document says that changing the politics of the Labour Party is bound up with changing the politics of the working class. The left within the Labour Party, it says, has been unable to break the grip of the right wing, especially in the Parliamentary Labour Party.

In the socialist Britain, the policy document recommends, there would be guaranteed freedom for all democratic political parties, including those hostil to socialism, independence of the trade unions and consolidation and extension of civil liberties. Monopoly control of the press would be ended and government-owned printing facilities put at the disposal of democratic bodies.

The British Road to Socialism (Communist Party of Great Britain, 30p).

Bishops aim to keep ministry in same form

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

The House of Bishops of the General Synod, containing all the diocesan bishops in the Church of England, has firmly rejected the argument that present circumstances require the parochial ministry to contract or to take on any radically new shape. Instead they want the church to commit itself to maintaining the ministry in its present size and form throughout the next decade.

To achieve that the bishops propose new administrative mechanisms to provide coordination in planning for the future of the ministry. Hitherto the recruitment and training of the ministry have been left to several semi-independent agencies without much central direction.

In July the General Synod will be asked to endorse the bishops' aims and on behalf of the church to declare itself committed to maintaining the ministry in its present form. That would pave the way for increased financial demands on the laity, and remove the uncertainty that is believed to be discouraging candidates for the ministry in coming forward.

The present rate of recruitment varies between about 300 and 400 accepted candidates a year. The bishops have set themselves the target of between 400 and 450 a year, which they calculate would be enough to provide a national parochial ministry of the present type.

In brief

Klan leader's appeal

Mr Anthony Reed-Herbert, the solicitor acting for Mr David Duke, the Ku-Klux-Klan leader, said yesterday that he had been instructed to fight Mr Duke's appeal against the Home Office variation order, to the House of Lords if necessary.

The order, requiring Mr Duke to leave Britain within 14 days, was served on Tuesday. The first stage, an appeal before the Home Office adjudicator, is expected to be heard soon.

Mining inquiry ends

A public inquiry into an appeal by Whitby Potash for renewal of planning permission t omine in the North York Moors National Park ended yesterday. About fifty witnesses gave evidence during the five-week hearing.

Sugar chief sued

Mr John Oliver Lyle, head of Tate & Lyle, the sugar company, is being sued in the High Court by Mr Anthony Thomas, independent producer of the Associated Television documentary series, *The South Ffrican Experience*, who alleges slander and libel.

Honey bear cleared

A honey bear from South America, over which there was a rabies scare in Hull when it was landed illegally from a ship a fortnight ago, has been cleared.

Ban on Gary Glitter

Gary Glitter, the pop singer, was banned from driving for 18 months by magistrates at Salisbury yesterday and fined £100 for driving with excess blood alcohol.

...testers force judge to ...e bench in rape case

... campaigners forced ... Park to leave the ... Bristol Crown Court ... They complained ... comments were an ... to rape.

... women interrupted a ... by waving a banner. ... protesting after a ... been cleared of raping ... They were removed ... case resumed later.

A Cheltenham man, aged 21, had been found not guilty by a jury of nine men and three women of raping the model in his room.

The judge said in summing-up that the jury might think it was foolish for a young woman to get a lift for a long distance. "But in these days there are a lot of independent women about", he said.

Council tenants 'should be allowed to improve homes'

By Our Planning Reporter

Council tenants should be given freedom to improve their homes as they see fit, Professor Christopher Foster, Director of the Centre for Environmental Studies, said yesterday.

"They should not have to wait on the council for improvements, or accept the standardized improvements that the council wants put in, or pay through increased rents for work which in part they could do for themselves", he continued. "If one householder can or wants to afford improvements that his neighbour does not he should be allowed to do so."

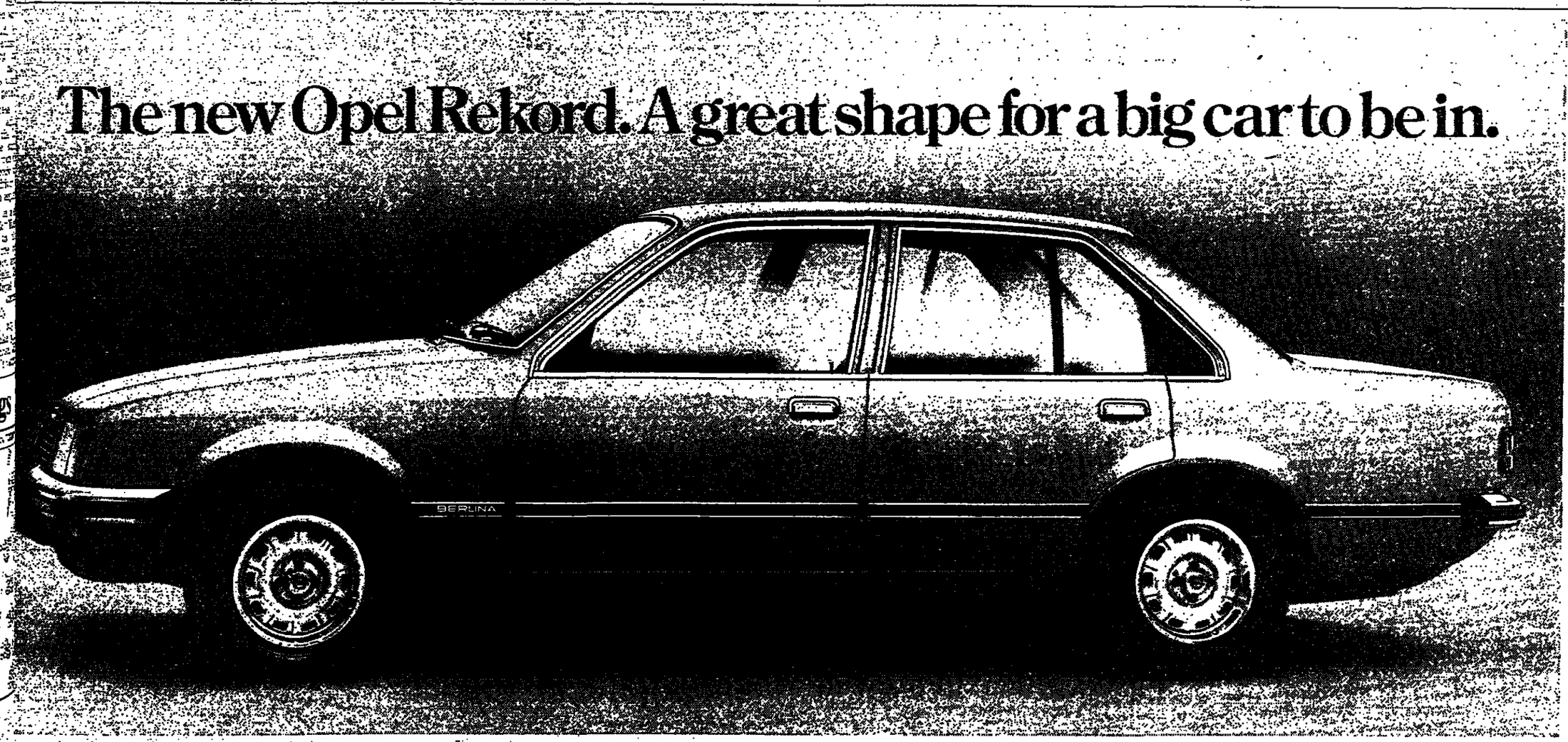
An outgoing tenant would receive compensation for any additional value he had conferred, or, alternatively, pay "dilapidations" if it was judged that the value had been lowered.

Professor Foster, who was speaking at the annual luncheon in London of the National Home Improvement Council, suggested that opposition would come from a few people who had been used to prescribing the repairs, maintenance and improvement that should take place in tenants' houses.

"A major fear for the next 10 to 20 years must be that large portions of the local authority housing stock will deteriorate into second-class dwellings, even into slums.", he said. "I believe that, to preserve the local authority sector for many who do not particularly want the responsibilities of ownership, it is imperative that as far as possible they have control over the improvement of their property as much as an owner-occupier does."

Housing loans: The Housing Corporation's minimum unit targets for new building and for improvements, mentioned in an agency report yesterday, are 15,760 and 15,330 respectively.

The new Opel Rekord. A great shape for a big car to be in.



The new 2-litre Opel Rekord didn't get to look good by chance. Those clean, sleek lines are purely the sult of an exhaustive wind-tunnel testing programme signed to cut down wind resistance. Which means ver consumption, better handling and a quieter ride.



That sort of concern is typical of the way we set about creating the new Rekord.

In great shape under the bonnet.
First, we agreed a 2-litre capacity was just right for the majority of motorists who want big car performance plus realistic running costs. So the Rekord delivers 0-60 in 10.5 secs with a top speed in excess of 100 mph. (What Car? figures)

In great shape inside.
Now for around £4,500, you're entitled to expect quite a lot, not just under the bonnet, but inside the car as well.

We're in great shape there too. Settle yourself in and you're immediately struck by the feeling of space and quiet luxury. As *Car* magazine said,..."their upholstery is so cleverly controlled in its spring and resistance as to give an uncommonly even distribution of pressure on body and thighs, as well as complete isolation from the motions communicated by the car's running gear." By which *Car* mean it's very quiet and comfortable indeed. And they summed up, comparing the new Rekord with the Ford Granada: "both cars ride well, but the Opel is notably the better."



In great shape for the driver.
Now a look from the driver's eye view. There's a practical, uncluttered dash with easy-to-read, non-reflective instruments and easily identified controls. Apart from the obvious, you have a 2-speed windscreen wiper (with intermittent action), quartz controlled clock, cigar lighter, illuminated heater controls and halogen headlights.

The top-of-the-line Rekord Berlina HL also boasts electrically operated windows, velour covered rear seat headrests, sun roof, headlamp wash/wipers, tinted glass and rich velour upholstery.

In great shape for servicing.
Spares are no problem either, thanks to Opels highly sophisticated, computerised spares network. As for servicing, the new Rekord needs only 3 hours spent on it a year for the average motorist – something most manufacturers would give their right arm to be able to claim.

Now you've had your first look at the new Rekord Saloon we'd like you to see it – and the Estate – in real life. Just ring 01-580 5221 and we will send you a free brochure and the name of your nearest dealer. He'll be pleased to arrange a test drive.

Keep your options Opel.

Opel Rekord Berlina illustrated £4,390 (excluding metallic paint) Saloon £4,265 Highline £5,150 Estates from £4,790 Diesels from £5,085. Prices correct at time of going to press, include car tax and seat belts. Delivery and number plates extra. Radio and automatic transmission available at extra cost.



The growth of two classic styles of sherry.

On the gently rolling hills around Jerez de la Frontera, new growth is beginning to show on the vines.

Within the lofty bodegas, last year's harvest is beginning to show its character.

The white Palomino grapes were harvested in September, then pressed and the mosto (juice) allowed to ferment freely in casks.

Certain mostos are now developing flor (yeast on the surface of the young wine) and others are not. Only those that are, will ultimately become finos or amontillados.

The classic fino is very pale in colour and very dry to taste, with a delicate bouquet.

Luncheon Dry is just such a fino and always best served chilled as it is in Jerez itself.

The classic amontillado is richer in colour and medium dry to taste, with a particular nuttiness from ageing in the cask.

Such is the character of Club Amontillado.

LUNCHEON DRY & CLUB AMONTILLADO
from Harveys of Bristol

WOMEN & Recruitment

Equal Opportunity is not a matter of opinion– it's the law

It's only right that anyone, man or woman, who is qualified and able to do a job should be given a fair chance to apply for it and be recruited.

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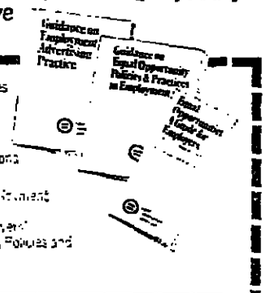
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The employment provisions of the Act explained in straightforward language.

Equal Opportunity Policies and Practices in Employment
Practical advice on implementing the Act in your business.

Send for and read these booklets and you'll have the best general advice available on the Act. Of course, if you have a particular problem, we'll be pleased to give you any assistance we can. All you have to do is ring or write.



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Equal Opportunities Commission

PEARSON REPORT

Plan for 'no fault' compensation for road accident victims financed by petrol tax

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

A "no-fault" compensation scheme for persons injured in road accidents, financed by a tax on petrol; an extended and improved industrial injuries scheme; and new benefits for severely handicapped children are among the 188 recommendations made by the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury, whose three-volume report was published yesterday.

The commission, under the chairmanship of Lord Pearson, was set up more than five years ago to look into most aspects of compensation for personal injury, the main exclusion being injuries caused by accidents in the home.

The report is peppered with minority opinions on specific aspects of the wide-ranging inquiry. Despite those, however, the principal recommendations have the force of unanimity or near unanimity.

The commission does not propose abolishing tort (actions for damages in the courts) as a means of obtaining compensation for injury, but says the emphasis should move away from tort and towards "no-fault" compensation provided by the social security system. It suggests new ways of assessing damages for injuries.

"At the heart of our inquiry has been the relationship between tort and social security. They are derived from different philosophies. In the past they have been allowed to develop side by side as though they had little to do with one another, so that they even use different words to describe the same thing."

The commission says its means of financing the suggested changes would involve only a modest additional charge on general taxation. The advantages of its proposals are that "more people than at present would benefit; delays, with all the anxieties that they involve, would be cut down; costs of administration would be reduced; and the better distribution of what funds were available should ensure that more of them went to the seriously injured and the bereaved who were in the greatest need".

The report points out that every year about three million people are injured, and 21,000 die, as a result of accidental injury or violence. Of the three million injuries during 1973-75, 720,000 occurred at work and 290,000 on the roads. More than a million, including accidents in the home, were outside the commission's terms of reference, but the rest, somewhat less than a million, came into its ambit.

Of the 21,000 average annual deaths in 1972-75, motor vehicle accidents accounted for 7,220.

The most far-reaching proposal made by the commission would abolish the existing principle on which the law of compensation for road accidents is based: that a person injured by a motor vehicle will recover tort compensation only if the other party was at fault. Under the "no-fault" scheme compensation would be recovered irrespective of who was at fault or negligent.

The commission summed up the disadvantages of the present system of tort as being that too few victims were compensated; that the entitlement to compensation depended too much on chance; that the system was unduly slow; and that it was expensive to administer.

The commission deals with the often-made justification of the existing system that it encourages individual responsibility and deters unsafe conduct and that drivers are influenced in their behaviour on the road by the prospect of incurring a financial penalty if they are careless.

"We find this a doubtful proposition. It is unrealistic to suggest that the cost of tort compensation is borne wholly, or even largely, by the driver responsible for an injury. Third-party claims are met by insurance funds, to which all drivers are required to contribute, and the element of loss incurred by the negligent driver is in practice limited to the possible loss of his no-claim bonus or an increase of premium on renewal of his policy.

"We doubt if the prospect of such a penalty weighs heavily with a driver in the heat of the moment . . . the criminal law and fear of personal injury together provide a more effective deterrent."

The commission suggests that its proposed "no-fault" compensation scheme should be based on the industrial injuries scheme in force in Britain for many injuries sustained at work, but with improved benefits. Provision would have to be made for children and other non-earners (who do not form part of the work injuries scheme) to receive compensation for injuries sustained in road accidents.

The "no-fault" scheme should be administered by the Department of Health and Social Security, not by private insurers. The Secretary of State for Social Services should have discretionary power to discontinue the payment of benefits under the scheme to those injured while on the way to or from committing an offence for which they were subsequently convicted. But the power should be exercised sparingly, limited to cases where the payment of benefit would clearly be repugnant to public opinion.

The commission discussed several options for financing the "no-fault" scheme, among them a driving licence fund levy, a road fund licence levy (rejected because all car drivers would have to make the same contribution to no-fault funds, irrespective of their accident record or the amount of use which they made of their vehicles) and a motor insurance premium levy (a sophisticated solution, but felt to be unpractical and expensive to run).

The commission concluded (with one dissenting voice) that the most practical way of financing a "no-fault" scheme was through a levy on petrol (estimated at about 1p a gallon).

The cost of the scheme, over and above social security benefits received, is estimated at £28m after five years, which a penny a gallon could meet. Against that, the cost of tort compensation would fall by £40m.

The commission recommends that the compulsory third-party insurance provisions for motor vehicles should be retained.

The commission found that there was a substantial "no-fault" scheme for industrial accidents, and that the basic structure of compensation for work injuries was sound. A study of overseas equivalents had not shown up any better schemes. Accordingly, the commission concluded that the industrial injuries scheme should remain broadly as it is at present but extended in scope and improved in the benefits it provided.

It recommends that the self-employed should be covered by the scheme and become entitled to disablement benefit, which at present they are not. "In principle, a self-employed man is just as deserving of compensation for a work accident as is an employed earner". But because there is no provision for earnings-related benefits for the self-employed, benefits for work accidents would have to be paid to them on a flat-rate basis. The cost would about £6m a year after five years.

By a majority of only one, the commission also decided to recommend that commuters should be covered by the industrial injuries scheme. Although, normally, travelling to and from work is not "in the course of employment" and therefore not covered, a majority of the commission believed that it would be anomalous if commuters injured in road accidents could get compensation under the "no-fault" scheme while those injured on their way to work in other ways would not. The cost would be about £11m after five years.

The commission recommends (supplying detailed figures) that there should be better earnings-related short-term and long-term benefits for injured people and their dependants. Widowers should be treated the same as widows. Entitlement to retirement pension should be more adequately protected during periods of injury. The Government is urged to consider ways of introducing a benefit for partial incapacity for work.

All the suggested improvements should be financed by an increase in national insurance contributions paid by employers and the self-employed (but not by employees).

Tort should continue to be retained for work injuries as a means of supplementing the "no-fault" industrial injuries scheme.

The commission concluded that, despite its many shortcomings (only 6½ per cent of injured people obtain compensation under it), the system of tort should be retained, although with increasingly less reliance being placed on it, and that the United Kingdom would therefore have a mixed tort "no fault" system.

It nevertheless recommends several changes, particularly in the way damages are assessed. Social security benefits received, it feels, should be offset in full against any awards of damages, thus eliminating double compensation. At present other benefits are taken only partly into account in reducing damages.

In cases of long-lasting injury, provision should be made for inflation-proof periodic payments to be made, instead of a lump-sum award. In general, the methods used to arrive at the sum payable in damages should take into account more fully than they do at present the plaintiff's tax position and the effect of inflation.

The concept of "strict liability" (that is, where the defendant is assumed by the law to be liable for the injuries caused to a plaintiff) should be extended to cover cases of injuries caused by vaccine damage, defective products, rail accidents, the assumption of exceptional risks (such as working with inflammable gases), and through conducting medical research.

Dealing with compensation for vaccine damage, the commission concludes that it is not right to try to distinguish one severely disabled child from another and to produce a situation where two children have the same needs but one is compensated, because his disabilities arose through vaccine damage, while another, who was handicapped for other reasons, is not.

Vaccine damaged children, the commission feels, should be considered with other severely disabled children, irrespective of the cause of disablement. However, children who can be shown to have been victims of vaccine damage should have an additional remedy in tort.

The recommendation is that the Government, or the local authority concerned, should be strictly liable in tort for severe damage suffered by anyone, whether a child or an adult, as a result of vaccination which has been recommended in the interests of the community.

The term "severely handicapped child" is defined as a child suffering from a long-term mental or physical handicap that causes his performance or development to fall far below those of other children of the same age.

For such children, the commission recommends the provision of a non-taxable disability allowance of £4 a week from the age of two. The allowance should be paid to the mother as an addition to child benefit, and would not be a substitute for local authority services.

Attendance allowance and mobility allowance should continue to be paid where appropriate but should start from the age of two, instead of, as present, five.

Implementing the commission's proposals, it estimates, would cost £16m a year (including £1m for changing the mobility allowance age limit) and administration costs of £2m.

The difficulty of separating disabilities caused by antenatal injuries for other congenital defects was one of the factors leading the commission to its conclusion that there should not be a separate scheme for injuries sustained ante-nately.

The net cost of implementing all its proposals would be £41m a year, the commission says, pointing out that many of its recommendations would lead to spending cuts. The increase in public spending through the social security system would be £130m, against which would be set off £89m a year through the various savings that would be achieved.

"This figure must be compared with a total social security budget of almost £12,000m a year", the commission points out. "We do not believe that it can be argued that the small extra cost of our proposals is too high a price to pay for the provision of more appropriate compensation for personal injury."

Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury. Command 7054 (Stationery Office, Vol 1, £7.60, Vol 2 [*Statistics and Costings*], £3.60, Vol 3 [*Overseas Systems of Commensation*], £3.60).

Parliamentary report, page 16
Leading article, page 19

The commission's task

The Royal Commission's terms of reference were: "to consider to what extent, in what circumstances and by what means compensation should be payable in respect of death or personal injury (including antenatal injury) suffered by any person in the course of employment; through the use of a motor vehicle or other means of transport; through the manufacture, supply or use of goods or services; on premises belonging to or occupied by another or otherwise through the act or omission of another where compensation under the present law is recoverable only on proof of fault or under the rules of strict liability, having regard to the cost and other implications of the arrangements for the recovery of compensation, whether by way of compulsory insurance or otherwise".

The commission's members were: Lord Pearson, former Lord Appeal in Ordinary: Lord Allen of Abbeydale, former Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Home Office; Lord Cameron, Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland; Mr Walter Anderson, former general secretary, National and Local Government Officers Association; Mr Norman Marsh, QC, Law Commissioner; Professor Richard Schilling, former professor of occupation health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Mr Ronald Skerman, chief actuary, Prudential Assurance Company; Mrs Margaret Brooke, former vice-chairman, National Federation of Women's Institutes; Professor Robert Duthie, Nuffield Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Oxford University; Mr Robert MacCrindle, QC; Mr Denis Marshall, solicitor, member of Council, Law Society; Professor Alan Prest, professor of economics, London School of Economics; Mr A. Sanson, managing director, Iron Trades Employers Federation (retired); Professor Olive Stevenson, head of department of social policy and social work, Keele University; Mr James Stewart, WS; Mr Alan Ure, director, Trollope and Colls.

New benefit for handicapped children urged

In its summary of conclusions the commission said:

Our compensation systems should be looked at as a whole. Tort should be retained and, while the two systems of tort and social security should continue side by side, the relationship between them should be significantly altered. Social security should be recognized as the principal means of compensation. Double compensation should be avoided by offsetting social security benefits in the assessment of tort damages. Money available should be spent on the more serious injuries rather than minor injuries. The range of those receiving compensation should be extended.

No-fault compensation should be introduced for motor vehicle injuries. The no-fault provision for work injuries should be improved. A new benefit for all severely handicapped children should be introduced.

The range of tort should be extended by introducing strict liability in some areas. Under tort, provision should be made for periodic payments for pecuniary loss.

In administering compensation existing systems and institutions should be used, but considerable simplification of the highly complicated social security system is desirable.

Our terms of reference do not cover all injuries, and at least one million injuries every year, mostly those occurring in the home, would remain outside the scope of our proposals.

Tort and the assessment of damages

We concluded that the action of tort, of which there are many criticisms, should nevertheless be retained. Liability in tort should remain a liability in negligence except where there are special reasons for imposing strict liability. We found special reasons for liability in respect of products, rail transport, volunteers for medical research, vaccine damage and things and operations involving exceptional risks.

So far as possible, the principle of making full reparation for the loss suffered should be continued. Damages should continue to be awarded for pecuniary loss and non-pecuniary loss, but changes should be made in the method of assessment and in the method of payment. In particular tort damages should be reduced by taking into account the full amount of the social security benefits payable as a result of the injury, thus avoiding double compensation. The number of small claims should be reduced by imposing a threshold for damages for non-pecuniary loss.

A system of periodic payments should be introduced for pecuniary loss caused by death or serious and lasting injury, although the parties should still be at liberty to settle a claim for an agreed lump sum. The method of calculating the loss when expressed as a lump sum should take fuller account of the effects of the plaintiff's tax position and of inflation.

WORK INJURIES

We concluded that the industrial injuries scheme administered by the Department of Health and Social Security should provide the basis for improved provision for those injured at work. Higher benefits should be paid for the first six months of incapacity or widowhood, followed by pensions calculated in the same way as in the new state pensions scheme, but in all cases at the improved levels that would accrue if contributions to the scheme had been paid for 20 years. Widowers should be treated in the same way as widows.

The scheme should be extended to cover the self-employed and to include commuting accidents. The conditions for compensation for occupational diseases should be less restrictive. The increased compensation costs should be met by employers.

Road injuries

We concluded that a no-fault compensation scheme should be introduced for injuries caused by motor vehicles, modelled on the scheme we recommend for work injuries with benefits at broadly the same level. Special provision should be made for children and non-earners, including housewives and retirement pensioners. The scheme should be administered by the DHSS and financed by a levy on petrol.

Air transport

We concluded that because liability is largely governed by international conventions the scope for change is limited. Nevertheless we draw attention to existing anomalies and to those areas where change is desirable. In particular, we would welcome action to increase the minimum limit of carriers' liability on all flights to, from and touching the United Kingdom.

Sea and inland waterways

We concluded that, in an area traditionally governed by international agreement, it would be inappropriate to recommend a new system of liability for the United Kingdom alone. We therefore reject the idea of imposing strict liability, but we think that the limits of liability for negligence or other fault should be increased as proposed in the London Convention. Our proposals in respect of aircraft and ships should be applied to hovercraft where appropriate.

Rail transport

We concluded that a no-fault scheme would not be appropriate for railway accidents but that strict liability should be introduced for injuries caused by the movement of rolling stock.

Products liability

We concluded that there is no justification at present for introducing a no-fault scheme for injuries caused by defective products. Strict liability would meet most of the objections to the present law. A scheme based broadly on the Council of Europe Convention and the draft EEC directive should be introduced.

Services other than medical and carriage

We concluded that, for these services, liability in negligence should be retained. While recognizing that different treatment of services and products would result in some anomalies, we thought that this would be preferable to the problems that could arise if strict liability for services were imposed.

Medical injury

We concluded that a no-fault scheme for medical accidents should not be introduced at present; but that the progress of no-fault compensation for medical accidents in New Zealand and Sweden should be studied and assessed, so that the experience could be drawn upon, if it was decided to introduce a no-fault scheme for medical accidents in this country. The negligence action should remain. Volunteers for medical research should have a right of action for tort damages based on strict liability.

Vaccine damage

We concluded that vaccine-damaged children should, if severely handicapped, be entitled to the benefit that we propose for severely handicapped children generally. In addition, there is a special case for paying tort compensation for vaccine damage where vaccination is recommended by the state and is undertaken to protect the community; the authority concerned should be strictly liable in tort for severe damage suffered by anyone, adult or child, as a result of such vaccination.

Antenatal injury

We concluded that as the cause of congenital malformation can rarely be established, it is not practicable to identify those cases within our terms of reference and to devise a separate scheme for them. Children who are injured before birth should be considered as part of the problem of compensation for all children who are injured. The tort action provided under the Congenital Disabilities (Civil Liability) Act, 1976, should be retained, but its operation should be restricted because there are grave objections to the tort action within the family in the sphere of antenatal injury. The introduction of strict liability for products would provide a remedy for antenatal injury caused by "defective" drugs.

Children

We concluded that all children who are severely handicapped should be treated in the same way, no matter what the cause of their handicap. A special benefit for severely handicapped children should be introduced. As there is no obvious source of finance related to the causes of handicap, the cost should be borne by the Exchequer.

Occupiers' liability

We concluded that no change is needed regarding injuries on other persons' premises, beyond that required to implement the Law Commission's recommendations on uninvited entrants.

Criminal injuries

We concluded that a state scheme for criminal injuries is desirable in principle. The existing criminal injuries schemes should be reviewed in the light of our proposals on tort and the assessment of damages.

Animals

We concluded that no major change is needed in the law of England, Wales and Northern Ireland relating to injuries caused by animals, but that Scottish legislation might be aligned with that for the rest of the United Kingdom.

Exceptional risks

We concluded that some provision should be made for exceptional risks that could not be adequately covered under any of the categories we have considered. Strict liability should be imposed on controllers of things or operations that by their unusually hazardous nature require supervision because of their potential for causing death or personal injury; and controllers of things or operations that, although normally safe, might cause serious and extensive casualties if they go wrong.

The cost of our proposals

As far as possible the cost of compensation should be borne by those creating the risks. Compensation should be redistributed in favour of the seriously injured. By removing double compensation, eliminating tort compensation for trivial injuries and reducing the amount spent on administration the overall cost of compensation for personal injury would be reduced in the early years, although ultimately there would be an overall increase of £41m a year (at January, 1977, prices). This change reflects an increase in the cost of social security compensation of £130m a year and a reduction in the cost of tort compensation and other payments of £89m a year.

ırge of immigration om South Africa

Healy
Services
spondent
ain is facing a surge of
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igures released by the
of Population Censuses
rveys showed yesterday.
e first time in 11 years
people came to Britain
South Africa in the first
months of 1977 than left
e there.
census office described
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people coming in are
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situation in southern
Many may be
ian citizens. 150,000 of
have a right to settle in

e first nine months of
more than twice the
of people arrived from
frica to settle in Britain as emigrated to South Africa. There were 13,000 South African immigrants, compared with 6,200 British emigrants.

That was a complete reversal of the pattern over the last decade. In the same period in 1976, 10,800 more people left Britain to settle in South Africa than arrived from that country to live here.

The figures, based on the international passenger survey covering the main air and sea routes, show that net emigration from Britain rose last year after a sustained fall in the previous two years. Between July and September, 1977, 13,000 more people left Britain to live abroad than came in, bringing the total net outflow for the first nine months of the year to 39,000.

There were record low inflows in the September quarter from the Indian subcontinent, Australia and America, while immigration from the Commonwealth and foreign countries were both down by about 8,000, compared with the September quarter of 1976.

30% rise for some actors in regional theatres

By Our Theatre Reporter

Actors in subsidized regional theatres will get up to 30 per cent more, Equity, the actors' union, said yesterday. It announced an agreement with the Theatrical Management Association/Council of Regional Theatre

The minimum will be raised from £38.50 to £50 a week (in a few cases only to £45), but actors above the minimum will receive less so that the average increase will still come within the Government's 10 per cent guideline.

Some provincial theatres say they may not be able to maintain all their present work and pay the increases.

Private hospital appeal

A £1m appeal to set up a new private hospital in Northampton was announced yesterday. It will be known as Three Shires Hospital and will have 30 beds, with consulting rooms and facilities for outpatients

Economy to dominate Labour conference in Scotland

Devolution on sideline at Dunoon

From Ronald Faux
Dunoon

Whatever reassuring warmth Mr James Callaghan manages to radiate over delegates to the annual conference of the Labour Party in Scotland when he addresses them tomorrow, it will be unemployment and the uncertainty overshadowing the economy that will dominate debate.

The conference at Dunoon, opening today, will be attended by Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, and Mr Reginald Underhill, national agent, who will no doubt be taking stock of their Scottish troops as the Glasgow, Garscadden, by-election approaches. It will be from the conference that the party will emerge, it is hoped, revitalized to meet the nationalist assault.

Nationalism and independence for Scotland do not rank high on the agenda. Yesterday a committee was hammering together four composite resolutions on the economy from 40 received and the executive believes it significant that only three resolutions plus an emergency one have been received on devolution. From a strategic point of view, devolution and "hammering the Nats" are intricately allied with improving the economy.

Although anti-devolutionists may well attempt to prevent the party using funds to fight for a "Yes" referendum vote, they seem unlikely to succeed since the executive feel that as the Scottish council if the party decided to support the "Yes" campaign, it should back it with the party wallet.

The party leaders can expect some criticism from delegates on the scale of Scottish unemployment and for apparently backing down when they had a direct approach to the Prime Minister. The executive has apparently been convinced by Mr Callaghan's argument that unemployment is an intractable problem spreading far beyond Scotland and cannot be entirely pinned on the Government.

The executive will damp such criticism by sounding the Government's record in Scotland from the 6,600 jobs in 145 Glasgow businesses that are safeguarded by the temporary employment subsidy to the shipbuilding policies which, according to Mr Callaghan, have safeguarded 5,000 man-years' work on the Clyde.

With inflation pegged for the moment and the North Sea revenues becoming available, the Labour Party is in the long term optimistic of forging a weapon with which to send the SNP homewards to think again.

Plan to exploit Ennerdale opposed

From John Chartres
Kendal

A proposal to extract water for industry from Ennerdale, one of the most prized and least exploited of the Lake District waters, moved a stage nearer to a clash between development and conservation interests yesterday.

The planning committee of the Lake District National Park special planning board decided by seven votes to six to oppose the scheme.

The North West Water Authority, which is promoting it, believes that much more water will be required for the development of industry in west Cumbria.

Yesterday's decision might easily be overturned by the full board on April 4, when the strong caucus of Conservatives from Cumbria County Council might hold a narrow majority.

The cost of the Ennerdale scheme put forward by the water authority is estimated at £2.2m, compared with about £4m for an alternative one proposed by conservation interests to extract the necessary water from the river Derwent.

Mr Martin Brannan, a leading Conservative on Cumbria council, said yesterday: "This is all public money we are talking about. Costs cannot be ignored."

Objections to the Ennerdale scheme are that the proposed raising of the lake level by four feet would flood footpaths and bridle tracks and that "draw-down" at times of high water requirement by industry would produce ugly mud banks

Printers of journalists' newspaper apologize

The printers of the National Union of Journalists' monthly newspaper, the *Journalist*, apologized in the High Court yesterday for untrue allegations in an unsigned article that a newspaper group had mistreated its employees.

Scottish and Universal Newspapers Ltd was unable to sue the NUJ or the editor of the *Journalist* because of the statutory protection afforded to unions and their officials against such proceedings. The only remedy had been to sue the printers, Derby Trader Newspapers Ltd.

Mr Andrew Pugh, counsel for the newspaper group, told Mr Justice Milmo that it owned 24 weekly newspapers and one daily newspaper in Scotland. The October, 1976, issue of the *Journalist* contained an unsigned article entitled "Struggle for survival", which made serious allegations against the group.

"It accused them of treating their employees in an arbitrary and high-handed way, of underpaying them, of requiring them to work in unsuitable conditions and of having demoted an employee when she became pregnant. These allegations were wholly untrue".

As the printers had agreed to make clear that the allegations against the newspaper group were untrue, and to contribute substantially to the group's legal costs, the group was prepared to forgo its claim for heavy damages.

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sideration of the Bill
y.
lorman Fowler, spokes-man on transport, moved an amendment to repeal powers held by the Greater London Council to control private car parks. He said the new Tory-controlled council did not want the powers. Dangerous new powers to control charges, opening hours and maximum periods cars could park in private car parks were in the Bill, he said.

Mr John Horam, Under-Secretary of State for Transport, said that if the GLC did not want the powers it was out of step with many other Tory-controlled county councils.

With Liberal support the Government won divisions on the amendment and retained the clause in the Bill by eight votes to six.

emical plant explosion sed by clerical error

ur Correspondent

emical explosion at the orks at Grangemouth, Scotland, last September used by a simple clerical t was stated at Falkirk Court yesterday.
company was carrying eriments in reducing the of sodium bicarbonate uff processing. The cal-s were correct but the were written down . The result was an n that caused damage d at about £250,000. No hurt.
ial Chemical Industries Earl's Road, Grange- admitted failing to pro- the safety of a worker on September 7, 1977, by not ensuring that a correct quantity of sodium bicarbonate was placed in a reaction vessel. It was fined £250 by Sheriff Robert Reid Kerr.

Mr John Innes, for the defence, said the cause of the blast was a straightforward clerical error. If the figures had been written down correctly nothing would have happened.

ICI accepted that there was a gap in the system of cross checking, which would be rectified. It is designing a new venting system for the replacement vessel.

Sheriff Kerr said: "If the quantities were wrong, certain steps should have been taken immediately."

land against lution ine to one

nders yesterday gave land council a vote of ice in favour of its lution policy. The f a postal ballot was one in favour of the policy of support for rimond amendment", included in the Scot-
s the appointment of l commission to look island's constitutional provided the islanders No" in the national on referendum later

oll was 71.8 per cent, higher than the usual a general election. Of 2 papers issued by the Reform Society, conducted the poll, were returned. The was: "Yes", 9,162; 1,028.

Judge refuses to jail man because of delay

Lord Cameron refused in the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday to jail a man for a knife assault because his case had been "lost" for more than two years.

Two days ago Lord Cameron demanded an explanation from the Crown of why the case of William Morrison, aged 23, of Glasgow, had been lost, and deferred sentence.

Mr Morrison had admitted assaulting Robert Whyte, of Clifton Terrace, Waterlawburn, Cambuslang, Strathclyde, with a knife on June 21, 1975.

Fining Mr Morrison £200 yesterday, Lord Cameron said: "It would be wholly inappropriate and offensive to our sense of justice to jail you."

Mr Hugh Morton, advocate depute, said the delay could be explained only by staff shortages and the number of cases being handled.

l for licensee who d rifle in pub

r Correspondent
ter
Millward, a licensee, so convinced that the using the cellars of house as a base that to train his staff in of guns, Mr Rodney for the prosecution, Manchester Crown sterday. One afternoon ht a terrorist was in se bar after closing fired his rifle and the ent past the ear of a cleaner, scorching her nsel added.
llward, aged 31, of the miral Hotel, Hulme, ter, was sentenced to s' imprisonment after admitting possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life, and criminal damage.

Mr Klevan said Mr Millward had been in charge of the hotel for only a few days when he began to carry a rifle and would not leave his private quarters. He showed his staff of four how to load and unload a .202 rifle. He told them: "The IRA are after me and I want you to be able to use the guns".

Mr Lindsey Platt, for the defence, said Mr Millward, a rifle club member, had had a "temporary brainstorm" after a customer had told him, probably as a joke, that the public house was used by members of an inactive IRA unit.

rnment aid olitical in schools

f Reporter
overnment is to spend in the political educa-oung people next year a grant to the British uncil from the Depart-Education and Science.
Margaret Jackson, cretary of State for , said yesterday, how-the Government could to promote the sub-e told a conference in hat although she fav-litical education for the e schools could not be teach it.
control of the schools e hands of the head The control of the m is in the hands of ssions and is not some-ould wish to remove m."
teachers could intro-tical education now if shed. Many schools nvited representatives ain political parties to policy of which she

Accident with skateboard led to death

A skateboard accident that led to a man's death was a classic example of the dangers of the sport, Mr John Hammond, director of sports for Leeds City Council, said at a resumed inquest in Leeds yesterday.

He said the sport needed a high level of coordination.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded on David Trezies, aged 36, of Lawrence Road, Leeds, who died on January 21 from pulmonary embolism after a fracture of the right ankle when he fell off a skateboard in Roundhay Park on November 8.

American survey

An eight-page report by Clive Cookson and David Walker on United States universities and colleges appears in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today. Sir Charles Carter writes on "the steady state university" and Guy Neave on France's *grandes écoles* after the first round of the National Assembly elections.

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HOME NEWS

Bank replies to judge's criticism of payment

Lloyds Bank replied yesterday to criticism by Judge Mark Smith at Kingston upon Thames Crown Court the previous day that it had allowed a pensioner to withdraw large sums without question.

Mr Ernest Pengilley, aged 80, of Kingston Road, Raynes Park, London, had been under pressure for the money, more than £6,000, to pay a bogus roofing contractor.

The bank was invited by the judge to reply to his criticisms. Mr Simon Tuckey, for the bank, said it was under no duty to inquire how clients were to spend their money. He added: "In many cases a customer would be offended to be asked how money drawn was to be spent." The bank, at Raynes Park, had done all that was tactfully possible to find out why Mr Pengilley needed so much.

The judge wondered if "a word by the bank to the police might have saved this man his money". Mr Tuckey said they would study the confidentiality between a bank and its customers. The judge said he would not retract his remarks.

Apology sought: The Union of Bank Employees yesterday demanded an apology from Judge Smith (the Press Association reports). It said his remarks were quite unwarranted.

"The staff concerned carried out their proper duties in giving the money to the customer, and it is quite unfair to imply otherwise."

Minister learns of research into vibration

Noise council's advice to airline

From Alan Hamilton
Southampton, March 16

It obligingly snowed in Southampton yesterday for the arrival of Mr Denis Howell, minister in charge of droughts and floods, to perform another of his governmental functions, that of minister of noise. He maintained his enviable record of success in controlling the weather: it snowed quietly.

Mr Howell, who, as Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, is chairman of the Noise Advisory Council, announced that it would be urging British Airways not to buy any new aircraft for its short and medium haul fleets until a new generation of quieter engines became available in the early 1980s.

The council will suggest that the 19 replacement aircraft British Airways says it will need in the near future should be leased or bought secondhand, so that they can be disposed of in favour of quieter aircraft at minimum expense. Any new aircraft bought by the airline should conform to the strict noise standards laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization in 1976, the council recommended.

Mr Howell and the council met in Southampton yesterday to visit the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research at Southampton University, which is studying the effects of environmental and industrial noise, and is one of the few centres of research into the effects of vibration on the body.

Although legislation is in the pipeline to establish a maximum noise level of 85 decibels in factories, and more than 200 successful claims for industrial deafness compensation have been brought to court in the past five years, many with the backing of the Southampton institute, vibration is not yet officially recognized as a hazard.

Dr Michael Griffin, lecturer in human factors at the institute, demonstrated to Mr Howell his laboratory full of vibrating chairs, and explained that the deleterious effects of vibration varied from "white finger", a condition similar to frostbite, to the difficulty of drinking coffee on a train.

Dr Griffin, chairman of a British Standards Institution subcommittee looking into vibration, hopes eventually to see legislation introduced to protect workers at risk. The European Commission has recently agreed to study vibration under pressure from Southampton.

It will cost an estimated £4,000 for each of the 500,000 British workers exposed to unacceptable noise to bring their machines in line with the 85 decibels recommended by the Health and Safety Executive.

Mr Howell was also facing exposure to noise and vibration: he had to hurry back to Westminster for the division bell.

£84 fare quoted for Los Angeles Skytrain

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Laker Airways would offer a single fare of £84 between London and Los Angeles if its plan for a Skytrain service between the two cities was accepted, the Civil Aviation Authority was told in London yesterday.

Aviation industry observers concluded that the reduction was a riposte to the £69 "eleventh-hour" fare announced last week for the same route by the other big British airline operating from Garwick airport, British Caledonian.

The single fare by Laker in the opposite direction would be £112, making a round-trip fare of £196.

Making the submission to the authority yesterday, Mr Robert Beckman, for Laker Airways, said the reductions were contingent on airlines such as British Airways and Trans World obtaining permission to offer cheap stand-by and budget fares on the route.

Mr Beckman asked the authority for permission to begin a Los Angeles service on September 26, the first anniversary of the Skytrain service to New York.

The Laker application was opposed by British Caledonian on the ground that it already possessed the British licence to fly to Los Angeles, although it does not operate on the route at present.

Whitehall denies that it has study papers

By Peter Hennessy

The Civil Service Department has refused a formal request from *The Times*, arising from the Prime Minister's open-government policy announced last July, that background material used in the preparation of the White Paper on the Civil Service published on Wednesday should be disclosed. The department has replied that no such papers exist.

In a letter dated July 6, last year, and approved by Mr James Callaghan, Lord Croham, then Sir Douglas Allen, Head of the Home Civil Service, wrote to 51 heads of government departments urging them in future to publish as much background material as possible from policy studies once the decisions based upon them had been announced.

"When policy studies are being undertaken in future the background material should as far as possible be written in a form that would permit it to be published separately with the minimum of alteration, once a ministerial decision to do so has been taken", he said.

Two months later the Commons Select Committee on Expenditure reported after an 18-month investigation of Whitehall. Departments began to compile replies to its 162 recommendations coordinated by an official committee chaired by Lord Croham (later by his successor Sir Ian Bancroft) and an ad hoc Cabinet committee under the Prime Minister.

A study of the resulting White Paper this week, which reaffirmed the Government's policy of openness in paragraph 44, suggested that material for its compilation had been prepared by the management, management staff and pay groups of the Civil Service Department, the Civil Service Commission, the Exchequer and Audit Department, 10 Downing Street and the general expenditure side of the Treasury. It was those background papers that The Ti was interested in obtaining.

The Civil Service Department replied that Wednesday's White Paper was not a policy study but a reply to a Select committee report whose volumes of evidence represented the background material. The White Paper had not been compiled on the basis of background documents but had proceeded through successive drafts with various departments and policy divisions contributing a chapter. The early drafts could not be disclosed.

The Civil The Civil Service Department is responsible under the letter of last July for exhorting other departments to comply with the policy and to keep a record of its results. The department indicated yesterday that it had such a list details of which will appear in The shortly.

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07.30 AQ476 from Edinburgh

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WEST EUROPE

European Parliament votes to keep EEC farm price rise to 2%

From David Wood
Strasbourg, March 16

Resisting pressure in the European Parliament for an increase in EEC farm prices from 2 per cent to 5 per cent, Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the Commissioner for Agriculture, delivered a warning that taxpayers were reaching the limit of tolerance and the common agricultural policy was at stake.

The 2 per cent increase for 1978-79 has been recommended by the Brussels Commission, and the political decision on the price package will be taken by the Council of Ministers at the end of April.

A majority of the European Parliament came out in support of the Commission's 2 per cent farm price increase, although they also carried an amendment refusing any increase to farm commodities that are in surplus, including milk and sugar.

It was a total parliamentary victory for MPs opposing the over-production of agricultural surpluses, fighting to curb inflation and protecting EEC consumer interests.

But British farmers still have the consolation that an average 2 per cent increase in farm prices, after due allowances for soft currencies, represents an increase of more than 5 per cent.

Farmers in the Irish Republic would draw a smaller benefit, although they have already gained considerable agricultural price increases from currency devaluations. France will also benefit by much more than 2 per cent.

Within the Parliament the Socialist, European Conservative and Communist groups, concerned for the consumer and control of inflation, supported the Commission.

The Christian Democrats, European Progressive Democrats (an alliance of French and Irish MPs) and Liberal groups broadly demand 5 per cent, as recommended in the report from the Parliament's agricultural committee.

"I will not mince words", Mr Gundelach said in closing a two-day debate. "What we are trying to do is to avoid putting agriculture on the dole."

There was no alternative to a moderate agricultural policy, and certainly there should be no illusions that Community surpluses could be exported, leaving the taxpayers to carry the cost. "At every cost to the taxpayer, more is exported from the EEC than in any other way", Gundelach added.

MPs "triumph": Mr Hughes, Labour MP for Durham, ordered champagne at lunch as he celebrated with some European MPs what he himself described as a personal triumph and a boost for the British pound (reports the Press Association).

It was his success in persuading the European Parliament to back an average 2 per cent increase in farm prices instead of the 5 per cent which the agriculture committee was advocating.

"We're not yet at the stage when consumers' interests override the farmers', but it is a step along the path", he added.

Michael Hornsby writes from Brussels: Farm incomes in the EEC increased by only 0.5 per cent in real terms last year, the European Commission estimates in a report released here today. This compares with an increase of 2.6 per cent in 1976.

The low increase is attributed in part to the legacy of the 1976 drought, counterbalanced by heavy falls of rain during critical phases in the cycle of certain crops. The Commission also records marked disparities between member states.

Whereas real farm incomes are estimated to have declined by 5.2 per cent in Holland, 4.5 per cent in Belgium and 3.1 per cent in West Germany, they increased by 8.6 per cent in France, 10.9 per cent in Denmark and 21.5 per cent in Ireland. There was no change in Britain.

These disparities will make even more difficult to justify increases in EEC farm support prices for 1978-79 within the 2 per cent ceiling recommended by the European Commission.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Cabinet urged to resign over Schleyer bungle

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 16

The Opposition today demanded the West German Government's resignation over police mistakes in handling, and eventually losing, vital clues to the whereabouts of Hanns-Martin Schleyer, the president of the employers' association kidnapped and murdered by terrorists last autumn.

Herr Alfred Dregger, the Opposition spokesman on internal affairs, told Parliament that Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor, bore full responsibility for the mistakes which had perhaps cost Herr Schleyer his life. Tip-offs from alert citizens which might have enabled the police to save him had been lost.

The Government, he said, had not been prepared for an emergency, the police command and information system had not worked. Moreover, the Government had not learnt from the case and would be equally unprepared if a fresh terrorist attack occured.

The Government, he declared in a stormy debate, was no longer capable of running the country. "Let us take over the Government. We can do it better."

The Chancellor rose to reject an accusation levelled by Herr Dregger that he was denying his responsibility for the mistakes, and warned the Opposition against making hasty conclusions about the case before the results of independent investigations were available.

The debate was the parliamentary aftermath to the discovery that while police were searching all Europe for Hanns-Martin Schleyer a vital tip-off in Erftstadt-Liblar, near Cologne, had been held up and apparently got lost in the police communications system.

Had it gone to the right destination the police would well have found him in Erftstadt-Liblar, where he was thought to have been held for three days.

The hide-out was the kind of place police have been looking for, a house in an anonymous flats, where nobody knows anyone else, with an underground garage providing unseen entry and exit and easy access to the nearby fast autobahns.

According to first reconstructions of what went wrong, the slip-up was apparently due to a confusion of competence between the Land police of North-Rhine Westphalia and the Federal Criminal Office which was coordinating the search.

Poverty-level claim is denied by Bonn

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, March 16

The Federal Labour Ministry has sharply denied a claim by Herr Georg Gölter, Rhineland-Palatinate Minister for Social Questions, that about half of West Germany's unemployed are living below the officially defined poverty level.

No more than 50,000 unemployed—not between 300,000 and 700,000 as claimed by Herr Gölter—were living on social assistance. Herr Gölter was wrong also in calculating that this assistance fell below the officially recognized minimum income needed for a decent human existence.

Portugal sends corvette to stranded trawler

Lisbon, March 16—The Portuguese Navy sent a corvette to the aid of a Portuguese trawler badly holed when strafed by military aircraft off the coast of the Western Sahara occupied by Moorocco.

The national news agency ANOP said that the corvette Afonso Cerqueira was sent from Madeira after the trawler Kurika had sent a distress signal saying that its pumps had broken down and it was taking water north of the Canary Islands.

The agency said that the trawler had been hit by machine-gun fire several hours ago off the coast of the Western Sahara.—UPI.

Paris and Bonn fear legal action by citizens over VAT

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 16

France and West Germany are seeking a retroactive extension of the deadline for introducing a uniform basis throughout the EEC for assessing value-added tax (VAT). They fear that they could be taken to the European Court of Justice by their own citizens for breach of Community law.

The VAT directive was adopted by EEC member states last May and should have been in force since January 1 of this year, but in fact only Britain and Belgium completed the necessary procedures in time to meet the deadline.

Introduction of the directive would have made it possible for the EEC budget this year to have been partly financed for the first time from the receipts of VAT levied at a rate of up to 1 per cent on a common list of goods and services.

This, in turn, would for the first time have made the budget entirely self-financing, the other two already using "own resources" being receipts from common customs on imports of industrial goods and levies on imported agricultural products.

The French and the Germans are worried that citizens could have an incentive to go to court because EEC directives would exempt from VAT some items exempt under existing national VAT legislation.

In a recent ruling, the court laid down that EEC directives have immediate legal force in member states, even without national implementing legislation, and take precedence over national law where the two differ.

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... the Prime Minister, ... last night in Nice, ...s warning of "the ...which threaten us". ...play with the Govern... through it would ...ge and the "necess... ...rgement of the ...involve all those ...e in justice, liberty ...

The French Elections

M Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, said on television today that the President had gone back to the Middle Ages in trying to put the 20 per cent of French Communist voters into the category of a national danger. If the left won the Communists would take 112 of the 260 seats won by the three common programme partners and they would not prove a danger.

M Marchais's figures, if realized, mean that he believes he will be in a position to claim almost half of the ministries in a government of the left.

With both sides fighting say of confidently proclaiming victory, it is clear that they are worried about losing the important vote of those who supported the minor parties which did not win through to the second round. The Ecologist vote in some 12 constituencies—enough to form a majority in such an evenly balanced election—could well be decisive.

Although the group fell somewhat short of its expectations and scored only an average of 2.14 per cent of the vote, this amount will be enough to win a seat. The Ecologist leaders have so far refused to give any advice to their supporters beyond saying that they should vote for the candidate whose programme is most sympathetic to their cause.

The failure of the Ecologists to maintain the support they won in last year's municipal elections is one of the interesting features of the campaign. It shows that while there is a widrspread feeling in favour of the cause it is not sufficient to persuade voters to support it when national rather than local politics are involved.

Charles Hargrove, page 18

Signor Moro becomes Europe's most illustrious victim of terrorism

Man of tormented sadness and legendary patience sums up Christian Democratic ideals

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 16

Five times Prime Minister, architect of Christian Democracy's long-term policies of opening first towards the Socialists and, now, to the Communists, Signor Aldo Moro changes today from being the most illustrious Christian Democrat to become the most illustrious victim in Europe of political terrorism.

The terrorists could scarcely have struck harder. They claim, themselves, to have carried the battle to the heart of the state. They have also carried it to the heart of the perpetually governing body.

Signor Moro, who is 61, sums up the ideals and many of the more fascinating elements in Christian Democratic behaviour.

He carries stamped on his features the tormented sadness of the Deep South and a legendary patience which sometimes makes him seem indecisive, sometimes uninterested in the mere mechanics of government and at other times focusing his thoughts on strategic ideas for the remote future, all supported by strong but intensely private inner convictions of which his religious observances are a powerful ingredient.

He was in fact kidnapped after his daily visit to a small church near his home. From church, he was about to attend a parliamentary debate due to seal his latest and most remarkable political victory.

Signor Moro has for long—it seems for ever—been convinced that Italian democracy must depend on an understanding which would allow the Communists a share of responsibility. As chairman of the party with a leadership beneath him which shares his outlook, he was the brooding, reserved but determined hand guiding the party's course.

But the leadership enocuntered unexpectedly strong opposition from within Christian Democratic ranks to the idea of forming a government supported formally and officially by the Communists. Such support had been unknown since the early years of the republic.

The opposition was on two lines: that communism should be kept at arm's length and that the seemingly immovable old leaders of the party, including Signor Moro, should be persuaded to allow younger men their say.

Signor Moro needed all his skill and political finesse to persuade the Christian Democratic parliamentarians to approve the type of government he favoured; a minority Christian Democratic administration supported by, among others, the Communists.

He is the great advocate of dialogue in politics, not strong divisions; of the "choral" form of democracy as opposed to the Anglo-Saxon style of duet between government and opposition. He wanted the left within, not outside, the system.

This naturally leads to the possible explanations of why he should have been chosen as the terrorists' victim. The first is simply his eminence. Terrorists in Italy, whoever they may be, have to force up the element in their activities of being able to astonish if they are to shock public opinion continually.



Signor Aldo Moro: Strong inner convictions.

If they wanted both to strike at the political system and astonish the public, Signor Moro was their man.

Secondly, they may be acting, either on their own behalf or on behalf of others, to halt the policies for which he has worked so thoroughly. A possible but unlikely third explanation is that his kidnapers are actually in favour of his policies and want to force the pace by which the Communists are brought into government by creating a situation of emergency.

Political reactions have been fairly consistent in maintaining that foreign agents are involved. Signor Zamberletti, an intelligent Christian Democrat who was in the past involved as a junior minister in Italy's inteligence system, made some stimulating remarks concerning Nato.

e was heard to say that De Gaulle left Nato because of a dozen attempts on his life and that France since, and by implication as a result, has managed to keep its terrorism under control.

Others see the interference as from the Communist World. Signor Battaglia, a Republican and former Under-Secretary at the Foreign Ministry, states quite clearly that the guiding hand should be sought in the East.

A factor which may well have contributed heavily to the success of this and other terrorist designs is the confusion in Italy's own counter-espionage service. Officers and agents of the old security services allegedly have been involved in a questionable way in attempts by the extreme right to use violent means against the country's democratic institutions.

Italy's new breed, page 18
Leading article, page 19

World leaders voice shock at abduction

The British Government was "shocked and horrified" by the kidnapping of Signor Aldo Moro, the former Italian Prime Minister, a Foreign Office spokesman said in London last night.

"Everyone must condemn such a senseless act and wish for his safe return", he said in a statement.

Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, sent a message to Signor Giulio Andreotti, his Italian opposite number, expressing shock at the kidnapping.

He also sent a private message of sympathy to Signora Eleonora Moro.

Mrs Thatcher, the Opposition leader, sent a telegram to Signor Andreotti expressing her shock. "Our sympathy and understanding are with you now and during the difficult time ahead", the message said.

Washington: President Carter expressed shock at the kidnapping of Signor Moro and said millions of Americans were praying for his safe return.

In a letter to President Leone he said: "I was shocked to hear of the terrorist kidnapping. This outrage deeply affects all of us."

Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, called the kidnapping "an insane and brutal act of terrorism".

Moscow: The Soviet news agency Tass blamed the "forces of reaction" for the kidnapping of Signor Moro and suggested that the action was aimed at preventing Communist participation in the Italian Government.

Paris: President Giscard d'Estaing sent a telegram to President Leone saying that his country had learnt of the kidnapping "with great emotion". The French people were unanimous in their feeling of reprobation against this act of terrorism.

He promised his total support for the fight against "an act which, through the person of Signor Moro, attacks the very principles of democracy".

M François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, said on Italian television that the kidnapping represented a blow to democracy and the rights of men, while M Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, expressed his "total indignation".

Rome: The Pope, ill with influenza, deplored the kidnapping in a telegram to Signora Moro: "We pray to the Lord to move the hearts of the authors of this tragic attempt and return your dear husband unharmed."

New York: Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, condemned the kidnapping and expressed hope for his early release.

Berlin: Herr Peter Lorenz, the West Berlin politician who was kidnapped in 1975 and later released in exchange for the release of a group of jailed anarchists, said he was grieved and angry at Signor Moro's abduction.

Madrid: Señor Suárez, the Spanish Prime Minister, voiced his "solidarity and friendship" in a message and expressed the hope that Signor Moro would be freed soon.

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... Own Correspondent
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Spencer, aged 23, ... and his brother ... 27, were forced to ...night in the open as ...es fell to —24°C ... Mr Roger Spencer ...o when dawn broke ...ish mountain rescue ... his brother to hos... ...nce France-Presse.

Moluccan homes searched

From Our Own Correspondent
Amsterdam, March 16

Members of the Dutch Government today met the Dutch-Moluccan Commission in The Hague, while in Assen police investigating this week's seizure of 67 hostages in the provincial government building searched four houses in the Moluccan district.

A team of 20 detectives accompanied by two dozen armed policemen searched the homes of the three Moluccan terrorists arrested on Tuesday and a fourth house which they frequently visited. One hand grenade was found as well as the typewriter on which the demands sent to the Ministry of Justice and to newspapers had been typed.

The three Moluccans were briefly interrogated by the police. The Assen Police Commissioner said that the interrogation had shed no new light on the event.

Press reports quoted sources in Assen saying that three other Moluccans had planned to seize a building in the western part of the country but changed their minds after the swift action by the Marines. The sources said that the accomplices were known to the authorities but these could not act for lack of proof.

In The Hague, the Dutch-Moluccan Commission, created after the hijacking of a train by Moluccan terrorists in September, 1975, met Mr Hans Wiegl, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Jacob de Ruiter, the Minister of Justice, Mr Christoph van der Klaauw, the Foreign Minister, and Mrs Mabilda Gardenier, the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Social Welfare. The meeting had been arranged before the terrorist attack.

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...rch 16
...s been "substantial ...towards... a treaty ...clear weapons tests ...gotiations here be... Soviet Union, the ...es and Britain.

...g a joint statement ...nation disarmament ... today, Mr Derick ...British delegate, said ...important points had ...en agreed since the ... eight months ago ...nces on remaining ...wed. To detail pub... ...maining problems ...plicate efforts to ...n, he said.

...e governments now ...t an international ...of seismic informa... help verify that a ...reaty was being. Mr Ashe said that ...for setting up and ...such a seismic ...hould be laid down ... to the treaty.

...or Likhatchev, the ...gate, said his Gov... ...pported a proposal ...nference's scientific ... testing the seismic ... envisaged is a co... ...xchange of data on subterranean disturbances, so that nuclear detonations can be distinguished from the 15,000 earthquakes registered annually.

The exchange would be based on 50 to 60 stations, most already in existence, and the information transmitted by the existing communication links over which weather information is distributed.

Mr Likhatchev pointed out that detection capabilities as based on present installations were lower in the Southern Hemisphere.

It appears that the test-ban negotiations will not be finished before the May special session on disarmament at the United Nations General Assembly, as was earlier hoped.

Troop count: Nato and Warsaw Pact nations announced agreement today on military manpower counting rules, and said that they had exchanged supplementary information at the Vienna troop reduction conference.

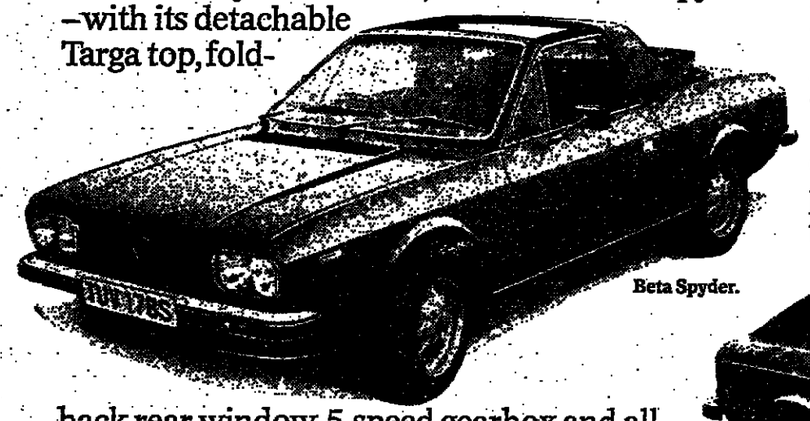
Diplomats on both sides are hoping that the exchange, ending months of backstage argument, would speed negotiations at the deadlocked conference.—Reuter.

Bonn fea... ...itizens o...

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Beta Spyder.

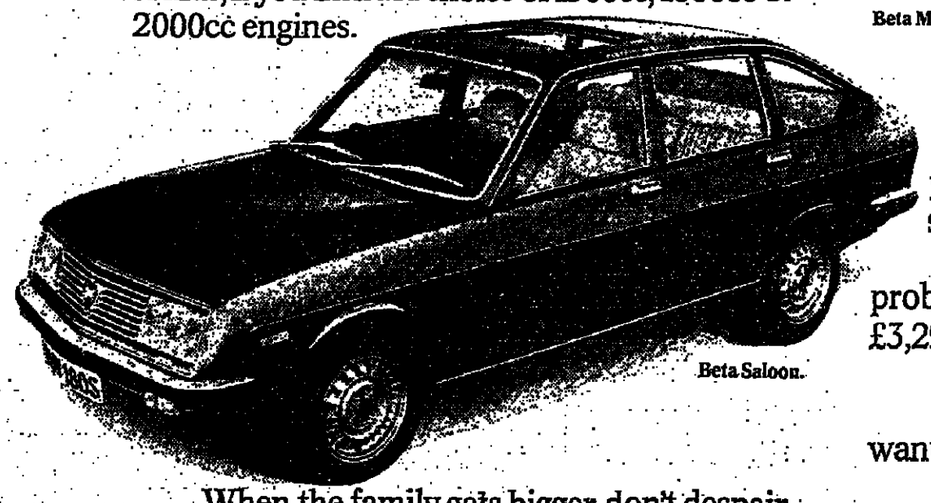
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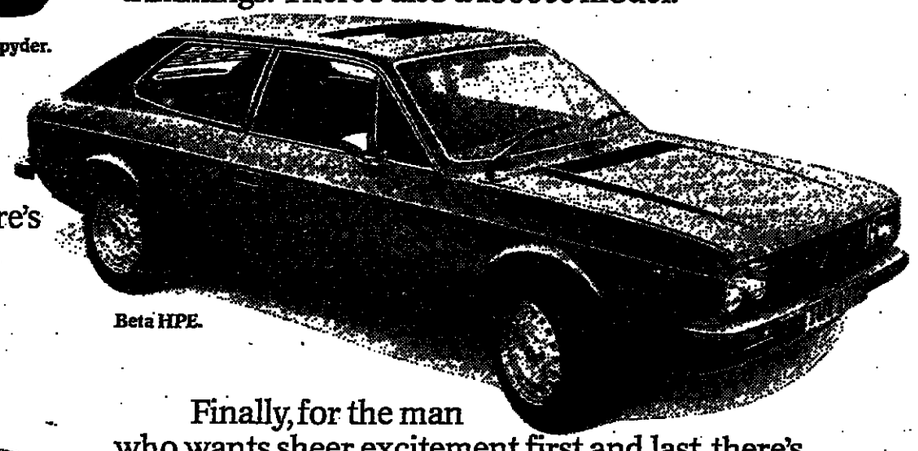


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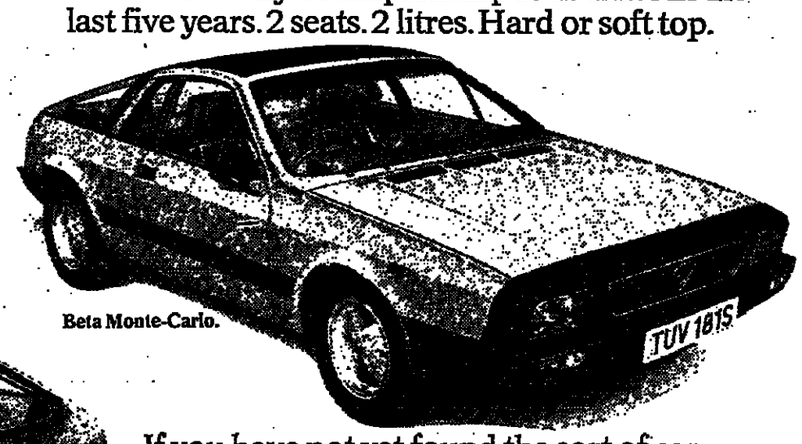
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OVERSEAS

Cuban forces likely to intervene in war against Eritreans

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 16

Diplomatic sources in Addis Ababa say they expect a considerable Cuban involvement in the war in Eritrea.

Large Cuban forces which were airlifted into Ethiopia between December and February so far have been deployed mainly in the Ogaden, but the lightning advance of Ethiopian forces, led by Cubans and Russians, and the withdrawal of Somali regular forces from the Ogaden, has left the Cubans with little to do.

The Cubans are still leading the Ethiopian reoccupation of the Ogaden but most of the key areas have already been retaken from the Somalis. There remains the need to counter guerrilla activity from scattered units of the Western Somalia Liberation Front but conventional warfare has ceased, the diplomats said.

Yesterday's *Pravda* commentary in Moscow, justifying the support of communist countries for the Ethiopian regime in Eritrea, is regarded as a sign that decisions have already been taken to move many of the Cubans and Russians to the Eritrean front.

Diplomatic sources said some Cuban troops had already arrived in Asmara, which has been surrounded by rebel forces for months. These forces, airlifted into Asmara, have already begun to probe the strength of the rebel positions round the city.

The Eritrean Liberation Front claimed last month that 2,000 Cubans had flown into Asmara. While that report was regarded as premature, it now appears that this number of Cubans could soon move into Asmara.

Yesterday the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) reported that Ethiopian forces had launched a probing attack from Asmara, intended to prepare for clearing the road to the Red Sea port of Massawa. But the EPLF said this was designed to test the strength of the rebel forces before a full-scale attack could be launched against them.

Until now, the Cuban attitude has been that the Eritrean revolt is an internal Ethiopian affair. But it appears that this attitude is changing.

Havana, March 16.—Cuban officials held a secret meeting with Somali and Ethiopian leaders in Aden a year ago during which Somalia promised not to invade its neighbour, President Castro said last night.

He said in a televised speech in eastern Cuba that his government called the meeting, which was also attended by South Yemen leaders, in an attempt to avoid a Somali-Ethiopian conflict.

"During the Aden meeting the Somali leadership solemnly swore they would never invade Ethiopia. In reality they already had everything planned. They began their aggression in June", Dr Castro said.

It was the first official confirmation that Cuba, which later sent troops to support the Ethiopians, had attempted to mediate between the two countries before the outbreak of hostilities in the Ogaden region.

Two days ago Cuba admitted for the first time that its soldiers and airmen had helped to turn the tide of the war against Somalia.

Dr Castro said Cuba firmly supported Ethiopia's decision not to invade Somalia. "We are sincere supporters of peace between the countries", he said. But, he added, "this is supposing that aggressions by Somalia against Ethiopia are not repeated."—Reuter.

Mogadishu, March 16.—Mr Milos Minic, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, arrived here today on a two-day visit which is seen by observers as a mediation between Somalia and Ethiopia. He arrived from Addis Ababa and was later to go to Sudan.—Agence France-Presse.

Victory trips among the occupied villages

From Michael Knipe
Metullah, March 16

Coach trips into "liberated Lebanon" were staged for the international press today after the Israeli sweep across the border to establish a six-mile deep security belt free of Palestinian Arab bases.

With tanks and armoured personnel carriers causing traffic jams and the occasional thud of artillery fire in the background, men, women and children gathered in the streets of Christian communities to wave and make victory signs as we passed by. A bunch of flowers had been attached to one military vehicle parked in a street near a herd of goats and the Israeli soldiers were clearly the heroes of the moment.

The tour, which began from Metullah, on the Israeli border with Lebanon, was postponed for seven hours because of clashes with remnants of Palestinian forces. We were not taken to any of the Palestinian strongholds captured during yesterday's incursions along the 60-mile frontier.

There was no doubting the delight of the Christian communities. "Welcome to liberated Lebanon", said Mr Francois Rizk, an elderly secondary school teacher who acted as our guide. "For 28 months we have lived like rabbits underground because of the Arab fanatics. But now, thanks to the Israeli people, particularly their big army, we are free."

He was speaking four miles from the border at the village of Kleaa, which is overlooked by the snow-covered slopes of Mount Hermon and in the west by Beaufort Castle, a stronghold built by the Crusaders to defend the Holy Land and now again in use as a Palestinian base. It is just beyond the Israeli security belt, but smoke billowed round it today as a result of Israeli artillery fire.

Later, after a shell from neighbouring Arnoun landed near the press party, Israeli aircraft bombed the Palestinian base and plumes of smoke rose from the burning village.

East of Kleaa another Palestinian stronghold, El Khiam, is now a ghost town. The Israeli forces attacked it at midday yesterday, losing one soldier in the action but driving the Palestinians to take refuge in the hills further north.

At the town of Marjayoun, where there was once a mixed Muslim and Christian community of 11,000, only 3,000 people are left. Today, like yesterday, they suffered rocket and heavy artillery attacks but were reassured by the Israeli presence. "For us it is a miracle", said one woman. "Now perhaps our life will return to normal."



Young Lebanese wave an Israeli flag as armoured personnel carriers enter the village of Kleaa.

Britain aids Kentucky to combat equine VD

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 16

British experts have been rushed to Kentucky this week in an attempt to halt an outbreak of equine veneral disease which threatens America's valuable bloodstock industry.

Britain, which suffered a serious outbreak of the disease last year, has the dubious distinction of being regarded as a repository of expertise on the affliction.

Three French stallions are suspected of introducing the disease into this country. They are Caro, Lyphard and Blushing Groom, who was third behind The Minstrel in last year's Derby at Epsom. They were brought here in haste last September, the day before the United States authorities imposed a ban on bloodstock imports from Europe.

The reason for the ban was specifically to prevent the spread to this country of equine venereal disease, the more technical name for which is contagious equine metritis. But the stable door may have been bolted shut a crucial few hours too late.

So far only about 20 horses have been affected, and the Governor of Kentucky signed an executive order yesterday banning the movement of brood mares from one farm to another. Kentucky is the centre of the bloodstock industry, which is important in the state's economy.

Mr Calvin Rainey, secretary of the Jockey Club, commented: "It could be catastrophic . . . we're hopeful it can be minimized", the breeding season here runs usually from mid-February to mid-June, but it is likely to be extended by a month in the hope that the outbreak will clear up. Such an extension would lessen the economic har mo fthe ban on movement.

The British experts now in Kentucky are Dr David Powell and Dr Donald Simpson, of the Equine Research Station in Newmarket. They will offer their advice at a panel discussion of racing officials and scientists today. There will be a further meeting at the Department of Agriculture in Washington tomorrow.

Equine venereal disease is similar to the human variety in that generally it can be transmitted only through sexual intercourse, or occasionally through the use of infected sanitation equipment. It can cause miscarriages and temporary sterility.

One of the horses whose sexual activity has been affected is Secretariat, the winner of the Triple Crown of the three-year-old races in 1973 and the most valuable breeding horse in Kentucky.

So far this year he has been allowed to mate with only seven mares; normally by this time he would have expected a higher scoring rate.

Anglo-US-Rhodesian talks in Pretoria today

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 16

Senior British, American and Rhodesian officials are to meet in Pretoria tomorrow in an attempt to win support for the latest Anglo-American proposals for a new conference involving all the parties involved in the Rhodesian conflict.

The meeting will take place in the British Embassy tomorrow afternoon and may continue until Saturday. It will be attended on the British side by Mr John Graham, Deputy Under-secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Henry Steel, a Foreign Office legal adviser, and Sir David Scott, the British Ambassador to South Africa.

The Americans will be represented by a senior member of the United States Embassy staff, Mr Jay Taylor, and the Rhodesians by Mr Jack Gaylard, the Secretary to the Cabinet.

There was some confusion as to who was responsible for calling the talks. The Rhodesians said the purpose of the meeting was to explain to the British and Americans, details of the internal settlement signed in Salisbury two weeks ago. But it seems that the initiative came mainly from the British and Americans who are now trying to drum up support for a new conference.

The aim of the conference would be to bring together the parties at last month's Malta meeting (the British, Americans and the Patriotic Front guerilla leaders), and the signatories of the Salisbury agreement (Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Jeremiah Chirau).

So far, every Rhodesian group has rejected the idea of a new conference. However, the fact that the Rhodesians have agreed to take part in tomorrow's meeting is an indication that their participation at such a conference should not entirely be ruled out.

Similarly, according to reports from New York, the Patriotic Front has also modified its attitude towards the latest Anglo-American proposals. It has indicated that it will consider a new Geneva-style conference if the British and Americans first agree to have another meeting with the Front.

Tomorrow's meeting takes place in the wake of this week's United Nation's Security Council resolution that the Rhodesian internal settlement was illegal and unacceptable.

Soviet Union condemns invasion Lebanon

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 16

The Soviet Union has called for joint action to end Israeli aggression and to bring about the immediate withdrawal of their troops from southern Lebanon.

A statement by the Soviet news agency *Tass* condemned the invasion of Lebanon and said Israel bore full responsibility for the dangerous consequences of this fresh aggravation of the Middle East situation. It did not however, say what action, if any, the Russians proposed to take.

Tass said the invasion was in pursuit of Israel's long-standing design—the occupation of southern Lebanon and the defeat of the Palestinian resistance, which Tass called "the staunch fighter for the legitimate national rights of the Palestinians".

Our Washington Correspondent writes: The United States Administration was playing a leading role today in what it described as "very intensive discussions" here, at the United Nations in New York and in various Middle East capitals to end the war in southern Lebanon.

Death toll of civilians put at 150 by PLO

Continued from page 1

supposed American-Israeli conspiracy. Mr Sadat is the Arab leader most at risk from the Israeli attack and his acute political embarrassment, not to say anger, was perfectly evident this afternoon.

In a statement of condemnation in Cairo, he said that Israel should realize that bloodshed would not create security.

"We thought we had reached the point when we were about to solve the whole problem peacefully", he said, "and now Israel is resorting to the use of force again".

Mr Sadat also said, a trifle ambiguously, that Egypt would "make its plans" for the future now that the Israelis had invaded south Lebanon.

These words presumably implied a reconsideration of his peace initiative with Israel, although an apparent threat of military action—"if Israel today has force, all of us have force"—was couched in the same vague terms.

In truth, Mr Sadat is probably in no position to take any real step towards either peace or war just now. With his aspirations so wounded by the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon and his policy already condemned as surrender by many Arab states (Iraq repeated this today), Mr Sadat's political credibility is beginning to look in sorry shape.

The Palestinians, outnumbered by perhaps 10 to one in southern Lebanon, have in the meantime been showing their usual flare for capitalizing on total defeat. Their spokesmen in Beirut have been emphasizing that some guerrilla groups are still operating against the Israelis, adding that honourable defeat could only have followed an invasion by an estimated 20,000 Israeli troops.

The PLO is still maintaining that more than 350 Israeli soldiers have been killed or wounded. It also says that 150 civilians have died in the Israeli raids, and that today two Israeli aircraft have been shot down.

Some fighting is certainly still going on. The Israelis admitted today over their state radio, listened to by the Lebanese with little scepticism these days, that the Israeli-held town of Marjayoun was shelled.

Travelling to the front line is a daunting task. When one journalist approached Israeli positions north of Mansoura in southern Lebanon today, he was told by Israeli troops to go away and warned that if he returned he would be "treated as a spy".

Panama vote test of President's authority

From David Cross
Washington, March 16

President Carter and his closest advisers were today counting the heads of senators whom they expected to support the first of the two controversial Panama Canal treaties in a crucial vote late today.

The outcome is widely seen here as a critical test of the President's prestige and political influence at home and abroad.

The Administration appeared confident that enough members of the Senate had swallowed their doubts about the new arrangements and would approve the first treaty by the required two-thirds majority.

Speaking at a Democratic fund-raising party last night, Mr Walter Mondale, the Vice-President, said that thanks to the efforts of Mr Robert Byrd, the Democratic leader in the Senate, "Lo and behold we have 67 votes for the Panama Canal treaty". If all 100 senators take part in the vote, a majority of at least 67 is needed.

But officials conceded today that the vote would be extremely close. A sudden change of heart by just one or two senators could jeopardize the treaties. Moreover, four or five members were still uncommited this morning.

Today's vote was on the so-called neutrality treaty, which guarantees that the strategic waterway will remain open to the ships of all nations when control of the canal is handed over to Panama at the end of the century.

To secure more ratification votes in the Senate two additions to the original document have been made, spelling out American rights to continue to defend the canal if its neutrality is threatened, and priority for American ships in time of war.

The changes have been made with the approval of the Panamanian Government.

The ratification struggle will continue after today as the Senate prepares to debate the second and arguably more controversial treaty covering arrangements for transferring control to the Panamanians over the next two decades.

Some Senators in favour of the first document today might well be tempted to change their position on the more delicate sovereignty question.

Russians land after longest space flight

Moscow, March 16.—Lieutenant-Colonel Yuri Romanenko and Mr Georgy Grechko landed safely in Soviet Central Asia today after the longest space flight.

Their Soyuz-27 capsule, its descent slowed by parachutes, came down on the snow-covered target area in Kazakhstan exactly 96 days and 1 hours after the mission began.

The two cosmonauts this morning said farewell to the Salyut-6 space station, their orbiting home for more than three months, before detaching Soyuz from it for the descent. Before leaving, they put Salyut's systems "into mothballs" and it continued to orbit under automatic control.

They landed 165 miles west of the town of Tselinograd, at 14.19 hours Moscow time (11.19 GMT), the exact time planned by Soviet space chiefs.

They were immediately given a preliminary medical check which showed they had stood up well to their long mission, Tass said.

The title, Hero of the Soviet Union, the country's highest honour, and the Order of Lenin were conferred on three of the six cosmonauts who took part in flights to the Salyut 6 station: Colonel Romanenko, Colonel Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Captain Vladimir Remek, the Czechoslovak spaceman.

The other three, Mr Grechko, Mr Oleg Makarov and Colonel Alexei Gubarev, who already held the title, were awarded second Orders of Lenin.

The success of Colonel Romanenko and Mr Grechko has taken the Salyut programme several important steps forward in its aim of extending the range and length of manned flights.

Visits by manned and unmanned cargo vessels have shown the Soviet Union can supply an orbiting station almost indefinitely.

The extensive programme of experiments carried out in Salyut 6 has also included research into ways of making spaceships more independent of earth, opening up prospects for more distant flights.

The main question is how well Cosmonauts can cope with months of weightlessness. Press reports have closely followed the health of Colonel Romanenko and Mr Grechko during their mission.

In preparation for returning to earth's gravity they recently began daily sessions in special "vacuum suits", designed to improve the flow of blood to the lower part of the body.

The two men have also done regular physical exercises.—Reuter.

Our Geneva Correspondent writes: American spacecraft do not use nuclear reactors, Mr Neil Hosenball, the United States delegate, told the 47-nation legal subcommittee on the peaceful uses of outer space today.

They carried radioisotope power systems designed not to release any radioactivity under normal conditions and only inconsequential amounts under the most severe accident conditions, he said.

Mood in Israel sobered by announcement of 11 dead

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, March 16

Satisfaction in Israel over the battering of Palestinian guerrillas in southern Lebanon was dampened this morning by the announcement that 11 Israeli soldiers were killed and 57 injured yesterday in the first day of the action. Arab casualties were estimated here at more than 100.

The Palestinians sustained additional casualties today. General Mordechai Gur, the Chief of Staff, disclosed during a visit to wounded in a Haifa hospital that fighting had continued today in areas not cleared of guerrillas. Palestinian fighters had appeared this morning where "there had been none yesterday".

There were no reports of further Israeli casualties today. All day the state radio broadcast the names of yesterday's dead and announced arrangements for their separate funerals near their respective homes.

All the casualties were aged 19 to 21, indicating they were conscripts rendering three years' compulsory service.

Palestinians in Israeli occupied areas were on edge. Buses sent to the West Bank and the Gaza strip this morning for workers employed in Israel returned mostly empty.

In Nablus, Israeli police used tear gas to disperse Arab high school students who spilled out into the street, saying they threatened to disrupt traffic.

In the Old City of Jerusalem, religious Jews complained that they were stoned by young Arabs as they walked to the Wailing Wall for prayers. Several were injured and arrests were made. A car was also set ablaze and tyres burnt in a typical form of Arab protest.

Student demonstrations were also reported from Bethlehem, Ramallah, Halhoul, El Bira, Jericho, Jenin and Tulkarm. The Israelis strongly reinforced the tough border police in the occupied areas.

In Jerusalem, Government officials expressed cautious satisfaction that criticism of their action in Lebanon has been mild in friendly European countries and America. No formal protests have been received.

Throughout Israel, approval of the attack in Lebanon was nearly universal, but some said that while it was an answer to terrorism it was not a solution.

Austrian leader's words anger the Israelis

From Sue Masterman
Vienna, March 16

Mr Jaakov Doon, the Israeli ambassador in Vienna, has been recalled to Israel, officially to inform his government about a statement made last weekend in Kuwait by Herr Willibald Pahr, the Austrian Foreign Minister.

In Vienna the recall of the ambassador is seen more as a protest by Israel against additional remarks made in the same context by Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor.

The official version of what Herr Pahr said in Kuwait, in a comment on the recent terrorist raid into Israel, is: "There can be no doubt that there is a certain relation between this attack and the Israeli refusal to grant the Palestinian people the right to self-determination." Agency reports said Herr Pahr had said that the Palestinian attack was a direct result of Israel's Palestinian policy.

In Vienna on Tuesday Dr Kreisky, when asked about the agency reports, said he fully backed his Foreign Minister.

He also implied that Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, in the past had used the same methods as the Palestinians were using now in order to bring about Israel's independence. This was interpreted by a news agency as Dr Kreisky accusing Mr Begin of terrorism. The Austrian ambassador in Israel was summoned to the Foreign Ministry there to explain.

Meanwhile, Herr Pahr, who had arrived back in Austria, stated firmly that his words in Kuwait had been misinterpreted. The Israeli Ambassador has been recalled to explain just what has been said.

The Austrian Ambassador in Israel has been asked to check whether Mr Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, has accused Dr Kreisky of condoning terrorism, as agency reports from Israel claim. If so, the Austrians intend to lodge an official counter-complaint.

Relations between Dr Kreisky, who is Jewish, and the Israeli Government have been strained since 1974 when, in Israel's opinion, the Austrian Chancellor betrayed them by giving in to the demands of Palestinian terrorists who hijacked a train with Soviet Jewish emigrants just after it crossed the Czech border into Austria.

Privileges won by tricking Soviet dignitaries

Continued from page 1

did not know him as a minister: to them he was a senior journalist from Tass.

In fact he was neither journalist nor minister, but a confidence trickster of great daring. Zakhar Dvoiris, as he called himself, apparently had an exemplary official background. Born in 1909 in the Ukraine, he qualified in jurisprudence, joined the Communist Party in 1930, becoming a deputy on Moscow city council, and was a secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Organization.

Moreover, he wrote 200 stories and had two films made from his work. Of all this not a word was true except his date of birth.

Mr Dvoiris obtained whatever certificates were helpful. Once he met a well-placed woman in a Moscow hotel. Charming her by his talk, he obtained a letter requesting a good pension for him.

Eventually he got himself a pension three times the normal rate, a good flat in Moscow, a plot of land in the country, where he had two dachas and on which he was planning to build a third.

He was also offered a dacha in Vladimir, where as a writer he would be free to think and work on his novels. Every year he was given passes to the best sanatoria with well-qualified doctors to take care of him.

His undoing came in Sochi. A tailor in one of the shops he frequented was promised copies of Victor Hugo, and a car if he agreed to buy the "minister's" surplus stock of caviar and fish. Mr Dvoiris also tried to sell him his second-hand suits and to get rid of foreign currency which, he said, he had obtained in Mexico during the Olympic Games.

The tailor was uncooperative. Mr Dvoiris then claimed that the workshop had lost one of his suits, and appealing to a senior official he obtained 346 roubles compensation. He then maintained that the tailor had borrowed more than 5,000 roubles from him, and producing false receipts, went to court to get the money.

In spite of the tailor's denial the court accepted the claim, took the sum from the unfortunate tailor and gave him a year's term in a corrective labour camp for "slander" in opposing a minister.

But the tailor persisted and appealed. The Higher court became suspicious, made inquiries and discovered the fraud. Indeed a whole army of investigators was brought in to uncover the story.

They found that Mr Dvoiris had worked only five years in his life and that in 1937 he was given five years in a labour camp for illegally reselling goods from a state secondhand shop, making 28,000 roubles profit. After his release, he pretended that he had been a political prisoner, a victim of Stalin's purges.

His story was retold in the current edition of *Literaturnaya Gazeta*. It is a daring account. The author asks pointedly: "Is this the image our people have of ministers and journalists? How could such a character obtain such privileged treatment?"

Actually the picture is all too familiar to Soviet readers.

A party background, a good war record and a career in journalism do bring benefits and privileges available to only a few, and deference to the demands of such people is expected.

It is not clear whether the man is on trial. *Literaturnaya Gazeta* is calling for an exemplary sentence, and says that at the least, Mr Dvoiris owes the state 30,000 roubles in a pension illegally obtained.

Whether any action is to be taken against the state officials who happily signed letters entitling him to dachas, pension rights and free holidays is not stated. But the warning to readers is clear.

S African tennis team revives race issue in American South

From Michael Leapman
Nashville, March 16

Vanderbilt University is a small, venerable and normally staid private institution which has traditionally catered to the children of wealthy southerners. Even in the late 1960s, when most American colleges were in ferment over Vietnam, Vanderbilt remained relatively calm.

This weekend, however, it will be the scene of a large demonstration against South African apartheid. It brought this upon itself by agreeing to stage the Davis Cup tennis match between the United States and South Africa.

The demonstration is to be organized by the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP). By its entry into the fray, the NAACP has greatly expanded the scope of the protests which had been coming from teachers and students and were at their most fervent in the School of Divinity. This week, a series of what are called "speak out" meetings against apartheid are being held on the terrace outside the canteen.

At one of them about a hundred people turned out to hear three black speakers. The first was Mr Pascal Zagre, a graduate student from Upper Volta, one of fewer than 300 black students in the university's enrolment of 7,000.

He made the point that the United States is now the only country in the world in which the South Africans can play tennis. That is why they play in the North American zone of the Davis Cup—an innovation which provoked the withdrawal from the competition of Canada, Mexico, Venezuela and the Caribbean countries.

Mr Zagre is making a more personal protest than other students by withdrawing from the university. He reasons that the staging of the match is an insult to blacks at Vanderbilt, as well as to blacks in Nashville, the capital of Tennessee, which was one of the southern states that adjusted most painfully to the end of racial segregation.

This was also the view of the next speaker, Mr D'Army Bailey, a lawyer and newspaper columnist from Memphis. "It shows us blacks what you think of us", he declared, calling for determined efforts to prevent the match from being played.

The final speaker was Dr Dennis Brutus, the seasoned South African exile and anti-apartheid campaigner. He attacked the defence being deployed by the university, that as an institute of learning it has to provide an "open forum" for the expression of all points of view.

Dr Brutus argued that the effect of the match would be to shore up a system which allowed no "open forum" to its own people. After he spoke, he went to put the same point to Mr Emmett Fields, the university's president.

I talked to Mr Fields just afterwards. He admitted to being surprised at the level of the protest and was unwilling to say categorically whether, had he known the fuss that was to be caused, the university would have agreed to hold the match in the first place.

Having done so, however, he and his colleagues were determined that it should go ahead, with its opponents' rights to protest also protected.

"Demonstrations are not a good reason for not holding events", he said. "We stand behind the protest and its right to occur under the same rules as we stand by the right of the tennis match to occur."

He believes there will be no violence, but everyone is worried by a statement by a leader of the Ku-Klux-Klan that members of that organization will be on hand to help the police to control any trouble. The uncertainty about what will happen has affected ticket sales: by early this week, only 2,000 of a possible 11,000 seats had been sold.

The story of how the Davis Cup came to Vanderbilt is rooted in the great importance which many former pupils of southern universities place on sporting achievement. For some time the Vanderbilt football team has done poorly, winning only two games in each of the past two seasons.

Former students complained, and the authorities recognized that a university of only 7,000 has little chance of doing well at football against local state universities perhaps five times its size. They decided therefore to bid for excellence at tennis, which needs fewer people to make a team. It was calculated that to be host to the Davis Cup match would lend prestige to the emergent tennis programme.

Presumably to forestall some of the protests, the South Africans selected Peter Lamb, an 18-year-old Coloured player, to the squad. He is the first non-white in the national tennis team, although he is unlikely to play in the actual match, just in an exhibition game.

He is also a student at Vanderbilt, the star of its tennis team. Some of the protestors would have liked him to back out of the match, but he is dedicated to playing for his country.

When the extent of the controversy became clear, the sponsors of the tournament, a local insurance and entertainment company, withdrew their backing. This could have provided a graceful escape for the university had it sought one out instead an alternative backer was found.

"We would have been giving in to pressure to act wrongly had we pulled out at that point", Mr Fields said. He pointed out that there had been a similar dispute in 1967, when the university authorities had insisted, despite protests from local whites and former students, on letting Mr Stokely Carmichael, a black radical, speak on the campus.

Dr William Steel, associate professor of economics and one of the leaders of faculty opposition to the match, does not accept the comparison. He makes a distinction between allowing free speech and allowing the facilities of the university to be used by an organization whose aims are deplorable.

In reply to Mr Field's moral arguments, Dr Steel quotes an African proverb: "What you do speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say."

It is in essence the old and familiar South African debate, but it takes extra piquancy from being conducted in a part of the United States which, until not so long ago, practised its own version of apartheid.

Britain names its new envoy to China

Mr Percy Cradock, who is 54, and at present Ambassador to East Germany, was named yesterday as Britain's next Ambassador to China.

Mr Cradock was in Peking throughout the Cultural Revolution. As chargé d'affaires from August, 1968, until his return to London in 1969 he was particularly concerned in attempts to unfreeze British-Chinese relations and to release British subjects held in China, including Mr Anthony Gray, Reuters correspondent.

The Foreign Office also announced yesterday that Mr Peter Moon, who is 49, is to be High Commissioner to Tanzania. He has served in South Africa, New York and Cairo.

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OVERSEAS

No joy for secessionists in Quebec opinion polls

...Patrick Brogan
...ec, March 16

...employment dropped ...ly in Quebec last month, ...Canadian unemployment ...above the million mark ...he first time, according to ...s published this week.

...Quebec, 10.9 per cent of ...ork force were out of a ...compared with 11.4 per ...in January. The national ...s 8.3 per cent.

...s is good news for the ...Parti Québécois (PQ) ...does something to balance ...nasty shock it got from the ...s of an opinion poll pub... ...earlier in the week ...showed that only 24.8 ...ent of people in Quebec ...rt independence under ...provincial Government's ...reignty association" for... There were 58.3 per cent ...t it.

...René Lévesque, the Qué... Premier, does not deny ...the PQ would lose a ...ndum on separation from ...est of Canada if it were ...now. But he says that the ...s education campaign is ...nderway yet and that the ...e will rally to his side.

...promised referendum ...probably be held by the ...of 1980 and it is ...it that the Lévesque Gov... ...nt will phrase its ques... ...elicately: "Will you give ...Government a mandate to ...ate separation-association ...Ottawa?" Unless an ...uake occurs in public ...n, the electorate will ...it.

...the rest of Canada, and ...nglish-speaking minority ...uebec, fear the earth... ...and the economic un... ...ties of the next two or ...years terrify business ...vestors. *The PQ's social* ...s are moderate by Euro... ...standards but extreme in ...America, *quite apart* ...the separation question, ...e results have been a ...in investment and a ...f confidence which has ...edly contributed to ...'s overall recession.

...Bernard Landry, Minis... ...State for Economic De... ...ent, says that this is not ...ering the specious argu... ...that separatism has no ...ic effect because things ...rse in the Maritime pro... ...which are loyally ...ist. Like every other ...minister, he blames ...while the Quebec ...tion, of course, blames ...for the province's woes. ...Landry, though a con... ...secessionist, believes in ...onomic advantages of a ...arket. Questions of cur... ...and tariffs for a Quebec ...are matters for nego... ...if things ever get that ...t his preference is for a ...n currency with Canada, ...trade zone and common ...al tariffs.

...wants special arrange... ...for Quebec, of course, ...is a little difficult to see ...vision any clear econo... ...enefit to Quebec from ...ndence.

...the same point can be ...in other fields. Mr ...Laurin, Minister of ...for Cultural Develop... ...is preparing a new Gov... ...t programme which is ...ed as social democratic, ...) is free to implement it ...ithout separation.

...Lévesque admits the gen... ...alidity of the latest ...poll results, but ques... ...me detail: it claimed ...per cent of those aged ...n 18 and 24 were anti... ...ist.

...age group is the PQ's ...t hope and Mr Lévesque ...at the poll cooked the ...On the other hand it is ...d that unemployment is ...among the young and ...ose who cannot find a ...y put work before ideol...



An elm that was the victim of Dutch Elm disease has become a memorial to all the other trees in the world that have been struck down by the disease. The dead tree was turned into a sculpture by John Faust at Cedar Falls, Iowa. Proposals for sculpturing elms in the royal parks in London are being considered by the Department of the Environment.

Miners may reject new wage offer

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, March 16

Members of the United Mine Workers' bargaining council have approved the latest employers' offer covering improved wages and working conditions, but by such a narrow margin that it could well be rejected by the rank and file.

At a meeting here last night, the union leaders cast 22 votes in favour of a proposed new contract and 17 against. They arranged a pithead ballot for Friday week for the 150,000 members.

The employers' offer includes improved pension and health benefits as well as a promise not to penalize leaders of wildcat strikes. These were the elements which were mainly responsible for the rejection by the miners of an earlier offer nearly a fortnight ago.

The earlier contract was approved by 25 members of the bargaining council, with 13 members voting against it.

Nearly all the striking miners are continuing to defy a court *order requiring them to return* to work for 80 days as a cooling-off period. The order was requested by the Administration under the Taft-Hartley Act.

...vote ...Russ... ...land... ...'s ...long... ...snag...

...patriation of Russians ...longs to history'

...r Hennessy
...an Crossland

...Goronwy-Roberts, Minis... ...State at the Foreign and ...nwealth Office, denies in ...released yesterday that ...scible repatriation of ...efugees and prisoners by ...authorities in 1944-47 ...bearing on the Govern... ...present attitude on ...rights.

...policy is addressed to ...human rights", he said ...ter to Lord Bethell, the ...ative peer and historian, ...book, *The Last Secret*, ...ed in 1974, first disclosed ...isodes inspired by the ...of enforced repatriation ...laced persons after the ...World War.

...not believe that intro... ...the notion of guilt or ...bility for events in 1944 ...helps to clarify the... These events belong to ...and are open to scrutiny ...ne who wishes to study ...Lord Goronwy-Roberts

...Goronwy-Roberts was ...to a letter from Lord ...to Dr David Owen, Foreign Secretary, of February 24. Lord Bethell had suggested that the Government should erect a memorial to those wrongfully repatriated and establish a fund to aid survivors and their families.

Lord Bethell said yesterday that he was disappointed that Dr Owen could not find time to reply in person about "a matter that affects Britain's good name so fundamentally". He regretted that he had been sent a "departmental draft" instead of a personal letter.

"I cannot agree that 'these events belong to history'. The Government cannot consign the issue to history while so many victims and perpetrators of what happened are still alive.

"If the Government refuses to act, I may have to consider Lord Goronwy-Roberts's suggestion of a private fund. But this would not do what I am trying to achieve; the symbolic recognition of our responsibilities by the nation's elected representatives. I can think of no one more suitable than Dr Owen to face up to this clear responsibility."

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SPORT

Racing

Fort Devon could miss National because of new Gold Cup date

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The weather played its cruellest trick of all yesterday when it forced the stewards at Cheltenham to abandon the third and final day of this year's National Hunt Festival. While the unsuspecting slept and dreamt of a variety of results snow fell so heavily in the area that there was a carpet three inches deep covering the course when the decision had to be made at 7.30 in the morning. Major Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, announced that the stewards had no option but to abandon the meeting.

This is a bitter blow to the executive because it means a severe financial loss and Cheltenham can ill afford that with a bill for a huge rebuilding scheme in the pipeline. The only shred of comfort left for some is the knowledge that the Gold Cup and the Triumph Hurdle, the two main races that were to have been run yesterday, will not be lost altogether and that, weather permitting, they will both be run on April 12. This will mean a seven-race card, the Ronald Royds Hurdle being transferred to the Thursday.

The last occasion that bad weather disrupted the National Hunt Festival was in 1975 when the first day was lost and racing was halted on the third day but not until after the Gold Cup had been run.

The last year that the Gold Cup was run in April was 1951, which was the time when a 12-year-old, Silver Fame, was successful. People may well wonder whether that could be a good omen now for Fort Devon because like Silver Fame he is a 12-year-old.

All ante-post bets on the two races are null and void. Special entry forms will be issued to trainers next week along with their usual entry sheets. Now it is up to the layers to open fresh ante-post books on the two races. The interest in betting ante-post will be markedly less and the weight of money correspondingly lighter. Gone are the days when there was 40-1 to be had about Major Thompson winning the Triumph Hurdle; when Midnight Court could be backed to win the Gold Cup at 16-1 or when Rodman and Fort Devon could be backed to win the same two races at 8-1. They looked good value then. But obviously the new prices will have less appeal.

Having had well-laid plans so completely disrupted trainers were understandably reluctant to commit themselves yesterday. For instance Fort Devon's trainer, Fulke Walwyn, was not even at home, let alone available to make any comment!

He simply left a message with his secretary to the effect that no decision had been reached regarding Fort Devon's future. The horse is still engaged in the Grand National on April 1 but the snag about running him then is that the great Aintree race will be only 12 days before the Gold Cup and it is common knowledge that Fort Devon is a horse who runs his best races when he is fresh. A hard race at Liverpool could jeopardize his chance of winning the Gold Cup and I know that his American owner Charles Bird, wants to win the Gold Cup more than any other race.

Showing what I can only describe as amazing foresight Fred Winter still has Midnight Court engaged in the Aynsley China Cup Steeplechase at Chepstow tomorrow but he told me yesterday that he will only run him there if Saturday's card at Lingfield Park is lost because basically he wants John Francome to ride both Spring Frolic and Lord Browndodd at Lingfield, and not even one as gifted as Francome can possibly be in two places at the same time!

Now that Francome and Midnight Court have formed such a smooth partnership, Winter is understandably anxious that it should not be broken. He did say however that if Midnight Court does not run at Chepstow tomorrow he will definitely go there on Easter Monday for the Welsh Champion Steeplechase before running in the Gold Cup.

Finally, the belt of snow which put paid to yesterday's racing at Cheltenham, also disrupted the morning's training at Newmarket. Activity on the heath was brought to a standstill when six inches of snow fell between six o'clock and ten o'clock in the morning.

STATE OF GOING (official): Uttoxeter: good. Tomorrow: Lingfield Park: Heavy (3.30 inspection today). Chepstow: Good. Newcastle: Soft.



The course at Cheltenham yesterday, after heavy overnight snow.

Why Mr Kildare shuts his ears

By Michael Seely

The Irish punter who shouted out jubilantly in the Cheltenham unsaddling enclosure "You don't get our best horses any more", hit the nail on the head with uncanny accuracy. Until recently such rising National Hunt stars as Golden Cygnet and Mr Kildare would have found their way into English stables. The situation is now reversed. And the reason is not hard to find.

The Irish economy is incredibly buoyant. This year they head the EEC growth league and a 7 per cent increase in their gross national product is expected. The *money pumped into Eire by such* countries as Germany. The Netherlands and ourselves has not only generated more general wealth, but also created more wealthy individuals, who can afford to turn down tempting offers from *abroad*.

There is also no doubt that the rich flavour of the Irish character helps to make the heady atmosphere of the National Hunt festival. And their infectious optimism and tall stories mean that laughter is always bubbling just underneath the surface. On the first day of the meeting Arthur Stephenson entered the track just behind Liam Browne and the Dublin businessman, Oliver Carty, the trainer and owner of Mr Kildare. "I'll get the tickets. You go and order the champagne", were Browne's instructions to Mr Carty. Such confidence shown an hour and a half before the race shook even Stephenson, a fearless backer himself when the occasion arises.

Many racegoers were put off Mr Kildare by his paddock appearance. A lean, long necked gelding, he hardly filled the eye of steeple*chasing enthusiasts* who prefer the more robust type of animal. But once in action, the five-year-old's powerful, *sloping* quarters propel him into a greyhound-like type of flowing movement, which *reminded* irresistibly of that wonderful mare, Dahlia, the heroine of two King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

The only doubts raised in my mind about Mr Kildare's potential were by his ears, which before and during the race, were pinned back against his head. Such a characteristic often denotes lack of resolution in a racehorse. I asked an Irish correspondent about this idiosyncrasy. "Ah, Mr Kildare's ears", he said. "I know about these. Just let me think. I know what it is. They always gallop him uphill and into the wind at home. The horse just does *it* to streamline himself. He has never galloped downwind in his life. And now it has become a habit." I stared at him unbelievingly for a moment. But my colleague was not pulling my leg. He was in deadly earnest so I had to believe *him*. And so we must leave the leprechauns and come back to the mundane realities of this afternoon's racing.

Uttoxeter programme

2.15 SPRING STEEPLECHASE (6-y-o novices: £709: 2m 1f)

1	b00120	Cartoon Time, B. Cambidge, 11-5	G. Jones
3	000-213	Doctor Win, F. Dover, 11-5	Mr A. Fowler 7
4	200131	Popples Love, J. Edwardes, 11-5	—
8	40-0000	Benly Boy, M. Scudamore, 10-12	—
10	003p00	Crimson Glove, H. Collingridge, 10-12	J. Pearce
12	00000-p	Emma's Fury, S. Underhill, 10-12	Mr P. Webber 7
13	000-p0p	Fastina, M. Scudamore, 10-12	R. R. Evans
14	004230	Finlus, D. Wintle, 10-12	—
15	0-u102f	Great Brig, F. Rimell, 10-12	J. Burke
18		Lytham, T. Ware, 10-12	—
19	00400p	Miss Kilo, A. W. Jones, 10-12	A. K. Taylor
20	00f	New Colonist, G. Vergette, 10-12	A. Webber
22	2p-003f	Reservist, J. Spearing, 10-12	A. Webb 5
24	00-0312	The Spud Centre, S. Mellor, 10-12	P. Blacker

9-4 Doctor Win, 3-1 The Spud Centre, 5-1 Popples Love, 6-1 Great Brig, 8-1 Cartoon Time, 10-1 Crimson Glove, 13-1 Finlus, 16-1 others.

2.45 DENSTONE HURDLE (5-y-o: £480: 2m 1f)

202	003p1-0	Flatalex, W. Clay, 11-7	N. Clay
203	p01120	Harrys Fizzale, B. Richmond, 11-7	K. McCauley
204	321442	Lloyd Ardua, B. Cambidge, 11-7	Mr J. Cambidge 7
205	001223	Rullahman, F. Yardley, 11-7	A. Lovell 7
208	pp	Bad But Beautiful, H. Harper, 11-0	Mr R. Harper 7
209		Ballyrag, B. Cambidge, 11-0	—
212	300030	Delaware Bay, M. Tate, 11-0	C. Smith
214	00-0	Glenann, D. H. Jones, 11-0	—
215	000	Isabella, D. McCain, 11-0	—
220	000	Lady Sunshine, Mrs S. Coldicott, 11-0	Mr S. Coldicott 7
222	0040	Miss Plumes, S. Holland, 11-0	S. Holland
223	02000-0	Morning Princess, P. Bevan, 11-0	S. G. Davis 7
224	00004-0	Prince Carlos, D. Wintle, 11-0	R. Hyett
225	003024	Roaming Minstrel, R. Hollinshead, 11-0	C. Astbury
228	f-f	Shadytoo, D. Wintle, 11-0	John Williams
230	f3004-	The Rightsman, W. Charles, 11-0	J. Nolan

3-1 Lloyd Ardua, 4-1 Harrys Fizzale, 5-1 Roaming Minstrel, 6-1 Rullahman, Delaware Bay, 10-1 Glenann, 12-1 Prince Carlos, 14-1 others.

3.15 POTTERS HURDLE (5-y-o: handicap: £651: 2m 1f)

303	340400	Benevolence (C-D), W. Clay, 11-5	N. Clay
306	10-u000	Queluz, M. Tate, 11-0	C. Smith
307	0-00100	Bold Gerard, D. Gandolfo, 10-13	P. Barton
309	001320	China God, B. Cambidge, 10-10	Mr J. Cambidge 7
310	134301	What-A-Prince, R. Morris, 10-7	F. Morris 7
311	0-22240	Three Musketeer's, W. Wharton, 10-6	C. Tinkler
313	243000	Bird Cherry, F. Rimell, 10-3	J. Burke
314	001u00	Lucky Ambition, E. Edmunds, 10-3	R. Hyett
315	134320	Franky Yes, F. Barton, 10-2	K. Gray
317	00-0p	Black Ray, G. Dawson, 10-0	A. Webber
319	00000	Penny's Affair, M. Daniell, 10-0	A. Webb 5

Evens What-A-Prince, 4-1 Benevolence, 6-1 Bird Cherry, 8-1 Lucky Ambition, 10-1 Franky Yes, 12-1 Queluz, 14-1 others.

3.45 OLDFIELDS STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,084: 2½m)

401	2-1032p	Trio J, D. Gandolfo, 7-12-0	P. Barton
402	4	Crofter, J. Gifford, 8-12-0	Mr G. Sloan
403	p0012-2	All Spirit, E. Jones, 9-11-8	R. Hyett
404	000-200	Straight Vulgan, P. Ransom, 12-11-5	Mr F. Ransom 7
405	020030	Holly Park (D), Miss C. Crooks, 10-11-5	M. Lowry 3
406	f33240	Limner, D. H. Jones, 7-11-2	—
407	0300-pf	Over Acting, G. Balding, 9-11-1	R. Linley
408	3-00034	My Babby (D), E. Evans, 8-11-0	Mr I. Johnson 7
411	041343	Irish Quicksteps, S. Natriss, 8-10-12	K. Gray
412	000p-pp	John Boy (D), D. Edmunds, 8-10-9	John Williams
414	012-0	Stand Clear, Miss S. Colton, 13-10-8	G. Jones
415	04-0300	My Captain, D. Morley, 9-10-9	B. R. Davies
416	042-	Mulrankin, B. Morgan, 11-10-8	J. Bishop 7
417	034f0f	Dingwell, W. Wharton, 6-10-7	C. Tinkler
419	000000	Island Mist, H. Nicholson, 5-10-1	K. Whyte 7
420	f-03p30	Red Wolf, A. Potts, 13-10-0	—

7-2 All Spirit, 4-1 Crofter, 5-1 Trio J, 6-1 My Captain, 15-2 Limner, 10-1 My Baby, 12-1 Irish Quicksteps, 16-1 Straight Vulgan, Over Acting, 20-1 others.

4.15 FARLEY STEEPLECHASE (Novices: Handicap: £714: 3¼m)

501	01b0u4	Kings or Better, F. Rimell, 7-12-0	Mr E. Woods 7
503	201130	Beige Prince, J. Gifford, 8-11-13	R. Champion
504	220341	Monty Python (C,D), Mrs J. Pitman, 6-11-9	B. Smart
505	122pf1	Ivors (D), D. Kent, 7-11-9	P. Haynes
506	311232	Corramacorra (D), D. Gandolfo, 8-11-6	P. Barton
507	3f1330	Jackstones, D. Nicholson, 7-11-5	R. Dickin
508	44130f	Tessie's Boy, M. Oliver, 8-11-5	R. Crank
510	122100	Low Profile, E. Jones, 7-11-4	R. Hyett
512	4003p0	Dalloway, J. Bloom, 6-10-7	A. Webber
515	0430ff	Arctic Granada, J. Edwards, 7-10-3	S. Morshead
517	0-03p00	Rathowen, J. Spearing, 7-10-0	R. Mann

5-2 Ivors, 100-30 Monty Python, 9-2 Beige Prince, 6-1 Kings or Better, 8-1 Corramacorra, 10-1 Jackstones, 12-1 Tessie's Boy, 16-1 Low Profile, 20-1 others.

4.45 NRBURY HURDL (4-y-o: novices: £577: 2m 1f)

601	112f	Thomson's Policy, J. Edwards, 12-2	—
604	0070	Tuffnut Prince, S. Mellor, 11-6	S. Jobar
605	000	Another Spring, R. Kulpe, 10-10	Mr E. Woods 7
607	00302	Dolly Dickins, R. Hollinshead, 10-10	C. Astbury
608	0	Emmabel, S. Underhill, 10-10	A. Webber
609	000	Jims Double, W. Clay, 10-10	N. Clay
610	p	Major Enterprise, S. Holland, 10-10	S. Holland
613	0000	Perfect Fit, J. Tierney, 10-10	—
616	00	Sovereign Lane, E. Jones, 10-10	R. Hyett
618	3	Tilhammer Mill, F. Rimell, 10-10	J. Burke

2-1 Dolly Dickins, 7-2 Thomson's *Policy*, 4-1 Tuffnut Prince, 6-1 Tilhammer Mills, 8-1 Sovereign Lane, 10-1 Jims Double, 12-1 Another Spring, 16-1 others.

Uttoxeter selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Great Brig. 2.45 Harrys Fizzale. 3.15 What-A-Prince. 3.45 Crofter. 4.15 Ivors. 4.45 Tuffnut Prince.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Crimson Glove. 3.45 My Captain.

Hexham results

2.15 (2.16) FALLOWFIELD HURDLE (Handicap: £512: 2m)
Jane Again, ch m, by Spartan General—Moselle Mist (P. Robinson), 8-11-5 P. Carvill (9-4 jt fav) 1
Pentagon .... A. Harrison (10-1) 2
Meldrette .... M. Murray (14-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-4 jt fav Top-N-Tale, 5-1 Twidale, 11-1 Fare Up, 14- Mr Resistor (4th), 16-1 Humercombe Lad, 33-1 Story Teller, Keyvaca. 10 ran.
TOTE: Win, 31p; places, 11p, 26p, 58p; dual forecast, 71p. W. Haigh, at Malton. 8l, 2½l. Houghie did not run.

2.45 (2.47) PLOVER HILL STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £705: 3m)
Wagner, br g, by Choral Society—Pride of Kilnockin (W. A. Stephenson), 8-10-10 Mr T. G. Dun (6-4 fav) 1
Moorside ...... M. Barnes (9-1) 2
ALSO RAN: 9-4 Charming Scot (f), 7-1 Bosphorus Queen (f), Border Brief (b), 20-1 Tully Town (u), 33-1 Crown Bird (f), Jimmie T (u), Kentmere (u), Old Policy (u). 10 ran.
TOTE: Win, 42p; places, 18p, 21p; dual forecast, £2.18. W. A. Stephenson, at Bishop Auckland. Won by distance.

3.15 (3.20) COASTLEY HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £448: 2m)
Habbersupreme, b g, by Supreme Sovereign—Dencombe (Selborne Engineering Co Ltd), 4-10-11 M. Lowry (6-4 fav) 1
Hit The Roof .. S. Charlton (7-2) 2
Royal Budget .. N. Balmer (10-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-4 Milk River, 25-1 Russian Society, Open Doors, 33-1 Contribution (4th), Moka, Albany Way, Greenville Guy, Hillend Lady, Periwigge, Pokey Jo, Martie Ross. 14 ran.
TOTE: Win, 17p; places, 11p, 34p, 30p; dual forecast, 54p. E. Carter, at Malton. 2l, 3l.

3.55 (3.57) CHOLLERFORD STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £975: 3m)
Luck, br g, by Negotiation—Orcharine (J. Henderson), 8-10-0 D. Atkins (20-1) 1
Chosen Slave .. C. Hawkins (7-1) 2
Cumbria .. Mr T. G. Dun (4-5) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 Bountiful Charles, 9-3 Little Swift (4th), 25-1 Kerman. 6 ran.
TOTE: Win, £2.73; places, 41p, 32p; dual forecast, £3.08. M. W. Easterby, at Flaxton. 5l, 1½l.

4.25 (4.27) OAKWOOD STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £807: 2m)
Supreme Sail, b h, by Supreme Sovereign—Sarasail (V. Thompson), 7-9-7 .. P. Carvill (12-1) 1
Stag Party ...... D. Atkins (5-2) 2
Welton Lad .... M. Barnes (5-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Cromwell Road, 11-2 Bold Warrior (4th), 12-1 Chartist, 16-1 Tatters Inn (p). 7 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.66; places, £1.63, 16p; dual forecast, £1.91. V. Thompson, at Alnwick. 5l, 4l.

4.50 (4.58) COASTLEY HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £435: 2m)
Saucy Eater, ch m, by Saucy Kit—Fireater (J. Crichton), 5-11-3 M. Barnes (11-8 fav) 1
Royal Flip .... D. Atkins (10-1) 2
Beirib .... W. Beardwood (14-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 Velvet Cap II, 9-3 Tears of Joy, 12-1 Kildale, 14-1 Glanford Bridge (4th), 16-1 Tehrani (p), 20-1 Cowgate Lady, 33-1 Bella Pasqua. 10 ran.
TOTE: Win, 34p; places, 11p, 37p, 14p; dual forecast, 62p. T. Barnes, at Penrith. 25l, 10l. Simprim Lady did not run.
TOTE DOUBLE: Habbersupreme, Supreme Sail, £85.10. TREBLE: Wagner, Luck, Saucy Eater, £59.50. JACKPOT: Not won. Pool of £338.50 carried forward. PLACEPOT: £127.75.

What-A-Prince the safest bet on a tricky card

By Michael Seely

With the abandonment of Lingfield Park, Uttoxeter is the only fixture to take place today. Spotting the likely winners on this moderate card looks no easier than it did at Cheltenham. Perhaps the soundest wager could be What-a-Prince in the Potters Handicap Hurdle. At Plumpton, the five-year-old produced a fine turn of foot to collar Charles Swift in the dying seconds of the Don Butchers Challenge Trophy. This afternoon, What-a-Prince should prove too sharp for Benevolence.

Fred Rimell could be on the mark with Great Brig in the Spring Novices Steeplechase. Great Brig fell at the fourth fence in Murray Flash's race at Wolverhampton but had previously run Toussaint to three quarters of a length at Cheltenham. A repetition of that form should see Great Brig beat Doctor Win.

George Sloan can consolidate his position at the head of the amateur riders' table by taking the Oldfields Handicap Steeplechase on Crofter. A non-runner last season, Crofter won three times during the previous campaign. Looking in need of the run, the eight-year-old went well for a long way when fourth to Mullacrew at Leicester and must have a good chance of defying top weight for his sporting American owner-rider. Another likely winner for Sussex is Ivors, an eight lengths winner at Huntingdon.

Lingfield off

Today's meeting at Lingfield has been abandoned because of *waterlogging. The stewards will* inspect the course at 3.30 pm today to determine whether racing can go ahead tomorrow. The racecourse manager, Rodney Fabricius, said that the prospects for tomorrow were reasonable.

Rowing

Cambridge's time is meaningless statistic

By Jim Railton

Cambridge gave nothing away in their full course trial late yesterday afternoon after moving marginally ahead as favourites on Wednesday. Cambridge proved perhaps one thing, which is understandable after months of training, and that is their ability to row from Putney to Mortlake. On a slack tide with London University providing the only real opposition for part of their voyage, Cambridge completed their full course trial in 20min 20sec—a meaningless statistic.

Interest yesterday afternoon centred on the duel with London University to Hammersmith Bridge in which Cambridge came off best, taking into consideration their longer-term commitment to reach Mortlake.

Cambridge, on *Middlesex* off the start, were one third of a length ahead at the Mile Post and gained almost three quarters of a length at Harrods as a result of a clash. But the crews were almost level as they shot Hammersmith Bridge with London University gaining distance back on their station. From that point onwards Cambridge were almost solo apart from brief encounters with Emanuel School and the odd pirate crew who wished to join the exercise. Cambridge, on a cold day, held together remarkably well.

Oxford rowing their worst on a medium tide could better Cambridge's time yesterday and rather than compete in Saturday's Head of the River race, I suspect that Oxford will opt for a full course trial today. But comparisons between Oxford and Cambridge's full course trials would be meaningless unless Oxford fell apart in their endeavours.

Oxford supporters may gleefully point out Oxford's supremacy over London University on Wednesday by just over three lengths to Hammersmith Bridge. But on that occasion Oxford showed good form for the first time and London University their worst. It is difficult to draw any comparisons.

OXFORD: T. J. Sutton (Oundle and St Catherine's), bow; R. A. Crockford (Prince Henry's, High and Corpus Christi), J. R. Crawford (Winchester and Pembroke), N. B. Rankov (Radford GS and Corpus Christi), *M. M. Moran (British Columbia University and Keble), *A. W. Shealy (Harvard and University), J. W. Wood (Hampton and Pembroke), *A. G. Michelmore (Melbourne University and New College), stroke; J. Fail (Bedford Modern and Oriel), cox.

CAMBRIDGE: *M. D. Bathurst (Merchant Taylors', Crosby and Pembroke), bow; *S. J. Clegg (Shrewsbury and St Catharine's), W. M. R. Dawkins (Westminster and Trinity), *C. M. Horton (Eton and Downing), *R. C. Ross (King's, Chester and LMBC), *A. E. Cooke-Yarborough (Eton and Caius), A. N. de M. Jelfs (John Mason, Abingdon and Fitzwilliam), R. N. E. Davies (Shrewsbury and St Catharine's), stroke; G. Henderson (Radley and Downing), cox.

Squash rackets

Pride to suffer more than players' pockets

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Four squash rackets players will earn £125 each from two defeats during the next four days. First round losers in the 16-man tournament, sponsored by Slazenger, at Chichester, beginning this evening will receive £100 each. Then, they will go into the draw for the plate event, starting on Monday, in which first round losers will receive £25. The players are also being provided with accommodation and meals so even those who fail to win a match may regard this, in retrospect, as a tournament in which their pride suffered more than their pockets.

Slazenger are putting £5,000 into the six-day event and £4,320 of this has been set aside for prize money. The winner will receive £1,000, the runner-up £700. Monday's programme will be restricted to the plate competition, the four survivors in the main event resting or practising in readiness for Tuesday's semi-final round. The seedings suggest that Wednesday's final will be a repetition of last October's World championship final between Geoffrey Hunt and Qamar Zaman. The full draw is:

Hunt v Maqsood, Safwat v Torsam, Alauddin v Shawcross, Jahan v Yasin, Aziz v Nancarrow, Colburn v Mohibullah, Brownlee v Watson, and Rehmatullah v Zaman.

Cycling

Thevenet and Gimondi head the bill

Bernard Thevenet, winner of the Tour de France in 1975 and 1977 and Felici Gimondi, an Italian, will head a star-studded international field when big-time professional cycling returns to Crystal Palace on April 15.

Thevenet, a 30-year-old Frenchman, is one of the world's most successful riders, and Gimondi, world title-holder in 1973, has won Tours of France, Italy and Spain. Both are making their first appearance in Britain. These two can expect tough opposition in a two-hour race run over the former motor racing circuit at Crystal Palace, which has been reopened for the occasion by the Greater London Council.

The strong entry from Europe includes Tinazzi, champion of France, Kraft, the German champion, and the British champion, Edwards, who, with other home entries Hoban and Sherwen, has been racig on the continent this season. Also in the *line-up is* France's former amateur world title-holder, Ovion.

Mottram out

Monaco, March 16.—Christopher Mttram of Britain today declared himself unfit for the Monaco-Britain Davis Cup tie which starts here tomorrow.—Reuter.

Yorkshire's all-rounder, Arnold Sidebottom, will miss the first month of the new cricket season, after being injured playing football for Huddersfield Town against Watford on Tuesday.

French racing

Pappagallo has surprise win at St Cloud

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent
Paris, March 16

Pappagallo sprang a surprise today at St Cloud in the Prix Exbury, which he won comfortably from Demia and Kamicia. The even money favourite, Beaume, showed for much of the race, but finished a poor fifth and will now try her luck at the Haras Du Quesnay in Normandy.

As in last week's Prix Edmond Blanc, Freddie Head decided to set the pace on Beaume. For much of the race they were followed by Kamicia, Demia and Pappagallo, with Velino and Dauphin du Roi filling the final positions. At the entrance to the straight Beaume was in retreat and Demia took over the lead from Pappagallo and Kamicia.

Pappagallo ran on well in the hands of his apprentice jockey, Jean-Luc Kessas, and had little trouble in holding off Demia by two lengths with Kamicia a further three lengths away in third place. The winning trainer, Bernard Secly, has no programme for Pappagallo, who in honesty is no better than a useful handicapper. But Kamicia's master, Jean Laumain, has ambitious plans for his filly, who was by no means given a hard race by Alain Badel. She next contests the Prix d'Harcourt at Longchamps on April 2 and her main target will be the Prix Ganay on the same course on April 30.

Tennis

WASHINGTON: B. Teacher beat E. Dibbs, 3—6, 7—5, 6—1; J. McEnroe beat R. Lutz, 6—4, 3—6, 6—3; R. Tanner beat C. Lewis (NZ), 6—4, 6—3; T. Gullikson beat T. Moore, 6—3, 7—5; V. Amritraj beat V. Pecci, 6—2, 6—7, 6—2.

BOSTON: Miss M. Navratilova beat Miss M. Jausovec 6—1, 6—2; Miss R. Casals beat Miss A. Smith 6—4, 5—7, 6—2; Miss M. Redondo beat Miss R. Tomanova 6—2, 6—0; Miss Y. Vermaak beat Miss K. Latham 6—1, 6—3.

Golf

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian open: 67: B. R. Douglass (US). 68: S. Owen (NZ). 69: G. Wolsenholme (Australia); Chen Tze Ming (Taiwan); M. Bembridge (GB); S. Ginn (Australia); B. Jones (Australia); G. Hamilton (Canada); M. Yamazaki (Japan); Y. Akitomi (Japan). 70: Y. Suzuki (Japan); J. Boores (US); S. Watanabe (Japan); Hung Wen Neng (Taiwan); G. Burrows (US); J. Clifford (Australia).

Table tennis

Douglas shines as Hungary beats England

Duisburg, March 16.—Hungary confirmed their supremacy in European table tennis here last night by winning both the men's and women's titles in the European championships. The women scored a convincing 3—0 win over Czechoslovakia, and the men beat England 5—3.

The Hungarian men's team contained three former world champions—Istvan Jonyer, Tibor Klampar and Gabor Gergely—but it was no walkover for them. The evening belonged largely to Jamaican-*born Desmond Douglas*, who scored all England's points. He beat Jonyer 13—21, 21—11, 21—14, Klampar 21—19, 21—9, and Gergely 21—15, 21—13.

In the women's event, the Hungarians won the gold medal for the fourth time. Romania came third after beating the Soviet Union 3—1.

RESULTS: Men: 1, Hungary; 2, England; 3, USSR; 4, France; 5, Yugoslavia; 6, Czechoslovakia; 7, Sweden; 8, W Germany; 9, Poland; 10, Bulgaria; other GB results: 21, Wales; 22, Scotland; 28, Guernsey; 29, Jersey. Women: 1, Hungary; 2, Czechoslovakia; 3, Romania; 4, USSR; 5, Yugoslavia; 6, England; 7, Sweden; 8, W Germany; 9, France; 10, Luxem-

Real tennis

Professional approach leads Oxford to whitewash

By Our Real Tennis Correspondent

Oxford annihilated Cambridge in their real tennis match at Lord's yesterday. In the two days' play Oxford won all six rubbers, two doubles and four singles, without the loss of a set. In the 14 sets played Cambridge won only 17 games and, to rub it in, five of the sets were lost to love. This was the 107th match between the two universities and it is highly doubtful whether any of its predecessors has been so one-sided.

Oxford had a moral and physical advantage in having Michael Dean as their first string. Until he became an undergraduate last year Dean was the university professional. He is also a class player, tone of the best volleyers in the country.

Dean, therefore is largely responsible for the current crop of enthusiasts and there are a good number of useful players at Oxford, at the moment. He took over from another first class professional, Christopher Ronaldson, now at the Royal Melbourne Club, Australia, and has been succeeded by Michael Flanagan, whom he taught. In the autumn Dean takes up a teaching post at Radley and will also take charge of court games, including rackets.

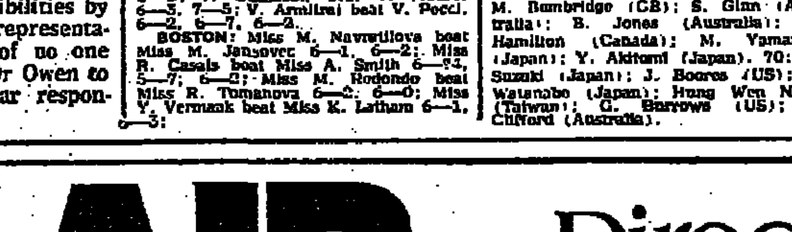
Even without Dean, the first professional to play for either university (arguments that he was ineligible were not strongly pursued), Oxford looked the more accomplished players and would probably have won though not, perhaps, so outrageously. Their approach to the game was less hurried and more thoughtful. They were not just competent court games players indulging themselves in a complicated and skilful game.

The Cambridge No 1, Mark Nicholls, is basically a rackets player and cricketer and his approach to real tennis is a trifle philistine.

RESULTS (Oxford names first): P. A. Luff (Bromsgrove and St Catharine's) beat S. Kverndal (Haileybury and Sidney Sussex), 6—1, 6—0; F. C. Satow (Rugby and Trinity) beat H. J. Pearson (Perse and Trinity), 6—0, 6—2; W. A. Hollington (Haileybury and St Edmund Hall) beat G. Pearson (Perse and Trinity), 6—0, 6—4; M. F. Dean (Dr Challoner's GS and Keble) beat M. W. Nicholls (Malvern and Magdalene), 6—0, 6—0. Doubles: Dean and Hollington beat Nicholls and H. J. Pearson, 6—1, 6—2, 6—3; Luff and Satow beat Kverndal and G. A. Pearson, 6—1, 6—1, 6—2.

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SPORT

Rugby Union

Lingering doubts on fitness of Davies

By Peter Walker

Wales experienced their most anxious moments of the season when their wing three-quarter, Gerald Davies, twice left the final Welsh team practice at Bridgend. On both occasions he was examined by the team's physiotherapist, Gerry Lewis.

Later, the chairman of selectors, Cliff Jones, explained that although Davies had full mobility he had felt the odd twinge from a slight hamstring tear he suffered in a club game last Saturday and it was thought prudent to withdraw from training. A final decision on his playing will not be taken until shortly before the match but, as Wales have hardly used his exceptional talents this season and waiting in the wings is another British Lion, Gareth Evans, of Newport, his absence *would not be as severely felt as* in previous seasons.

The other doubtful player, Tony Faulkner, Pontypool's prop forward, went through the 75-minute period without any apparent discomfort. He has been troubled with a neck strain but treatment twice daily this week seems to have cured the ailment.

The Welsh run out was shorter than usual. Perhaps this was a recognition by John Dawes, the coach, that this has been a punishing season, which began for many of his players in May 1977 with the Lions tour of New Zealand.

The style of practice, too, was unusual. Absent were the punishing stints on the scrummaging machine and the oft-repeated running three-quarter handling movement. Instead, Dawes ordered 20 minutes of warming up exercises followed by 45 minutes of gentle combative rugby against a scratch side of Saturday's reserves augmented by the local police team.

The machine looked clean and well tuned with the air of confidence that reflects the fact that it is 10 years since France won at Cardiff Arms Park. The French team arrived in the Welsh capital last night and have arranged a secret practice later this morning.



Gerald Davies : twinges in injured leg during practice.

Duggan and Ward have been declared fit to play for Ireland against England at Twickenham tomorrow after a rigorous practice at Castle Avenue, Dublin, yesterday. The Irish coach, Noel Murphy, will wait until tomorrow before finally passing Duggan fit in case he has a reaction.

Steps to stamp out unruly rucking

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The tempestuous nature of Wales's rugby international against Ireland in Dublin has left the Welsh players wondering whether there comes a point when a man's courage in the line of duty is not being stretched beyond reasonable limits.

There is little doubt that rucking at the highest level has become more ferocious and unbridled since the All Blacks brought it to a most robust and match-winning art in the 1960s. Certainly, I cannot see New Zealand's representatives agreeing to a radical suggestion in *The Observer* by Clem Thomas, an outstanding Wales and Lions flanker, that only hand should be allowed in rucks and the use of the boot should be outlawed. The International Board are likely to hold at their meeting today that the laws are perfectly adequate to protect life and limb provided they are rigorously enforced by strict refereeing.

The game's administrators may also take even less enthusiastically to the admission of J. P. R. Williams, after the Irish match, that he made a late tackle on Gibson because it was better for his side to give away three points rather than four. This would be categorized in other sports as "a professional foul", and it will be a sad day for the game if it becomes acceptable in rugby football.

The present unease in Wales gives added point to a recent directive from their union, which is concerned about the pile-up that so often follows a ruck/maul. Welsh referees have been adjured to be much stricter in enforcing the IB ruling of 1977 which stated that, if play is allowed to continue in such situations, there may be dangerous consequences because of players using their feet to obtain the ball.

It added there were too many instances of players jumping on top, and that in all such cases the prescribed penalty should be awarded. Welsh referees have also been urged stringently to apply Law 19, which provides that a player lying on the ground must immediately play the ball, or get up, or roll away from it.

A point of law, which seems certain to be raised by Scotland's representatives at today's meeting, arises from the award of a try to Fenwick in the Scotland-Wales international at Murrayfield, when he picked up the ball that had been propelled forward as J. J. Williams was stopped by Renwick close to the Scottish line.

The Board's interpretation of Law 17 is that, if the ball in a player's possession *is* dislodged when he is tackled, or falls to the ground, this is not propelling the ball forward. Yet the definition of tackle in Law 18 is that one occurs when a player is so held that the ball touches the ground.

That was not the case when Renwick stopped Williams, and Scotland can quote Law 33, which states that a throw forward occurs when a player carrying the ball throws or passes it in the direction of his opponents' dead ball line. There *is* no suggestion of deliberate intention by Williams to push the ball forward—it looked to be knocked out of his grasp—but clearly there *is* an anomaly between law and interpretation.

Bowls

Scotland win battle of underdogs

Scotland came from behind to beat Ireland 124—100 in a battle between the bottom two countries, in the women's home international indoor championship at Tolworth, yesterday. The Irish led by 11 shots, with some 20 ends to go, but they failed to resist a Scottish rally. Scotland, the 1976 winners, owed much of their success to the four skipped by May Black, of Arbroath, who finished 18 shots ahead of the Irish rink, skipped by Kathleen Toner.

Under Mrs Black's careful guidance, the Scottish four *surged* 11—1 up in five ends and another fine flourish later on had the Irish in more trouble. The closest call came on the first rink, where Ireland won by one shot. Daisy Fraser hit the target time and again for her side to build a 17—10 lead, but the Scots countered well, picking up 10 shots in six ends, including a four at the last.

Scotland beat Ireland 124—100: (Scottish skips first): A. Leslie 20, D. Fraser 21; C. McParland 17, E. Cameron 19; J. Frame 11, H. Hart 21; M. Jamieson 20, M. Ross 11; M. Black 32, K. Toner 14; I. Black 24, N. Gibson 14.

England beat Wales 122—96: (English skips first): J. Sparkes 31, L. Nicholas 17; F. Mist 10, E. Morgan 26; N. Shaw 30, M. Bellamy 15; G. Glover-Phillips 13, M. Pomeroy 22; O. Freeman 24, K. Lake 11; I. Molyneux 24, M. Jones 7.

Only a title defence

The British Boxing Board of Control yesterday rejected an application for a 10 rounds welterweight contest between Peter Neal, of Abingdon, and Steve Angell, of Hemel Hempstead, at Grosvenor House, next Wednesday, to be regarded as an eliminator for the British championship. The bout is for Neal's southern area title.

Show jumping

Britain to stage European championships

Britain, as the holders of the Junior European Show Jumping Championship, have the privilege of staging the championships for 1978, and they will be held during the Great Northumberland Show at the North of England Equestrian Centre from August 10 to August 13. All the members of last year's winning team are available to defend the title.

The championships will be sponsored for the first time, for £12,000, by Continental London Ltd, Grain Brokers. The 10 acceptances so far include West Germany, France, Switzerland, Spain, Poland, Italy and Ireland. The Netherlands and Belgium have not yet replied to the invitation, and nor have the Soviet Union. Last year's championships took place in Switzerland, where the team of four brought back the title including Harvey Smith's two sons, Robert and Stephen.

Cricket

Australia choose Darling

Bridgetown, Barbados, March 16.—The Australian team for the second Test match against West Indies starting here tomorrow shows one change from the side which lost the first Test in Trinidad by an innings and 106 runs.

Darling, who was named in the Trinidad party but was forced to *withdraw with influenza, replaces* Toohey who broke a thumb

G. Wood, R. Darling, G. Yallop, C. Serjeant, G. Cosier, R. Simpson (captain), S. Rixon, B. Yardley, J. Thomson, W. Clark, J. Higgs. Twelfth man: T. Laughlin.—Reuter.

Motor racing

Leading drivers and cars line up at Silverstone

By John Blunsden

Mario Andretti, the world championship leader, Nicki Lauda, the current champion, and two former champions, James Hunt and Emerson Fittipaldi, are heading the entry list for the International Trophy race at Silverstone on Sunday. Apart from the British Grand Prix at Brands Hatch in July, the 40-lap race will provide the only opportunity in this country to see the leading grand prix cars and drivers in action during 1978.

The fastest 16 qualifiers *tomorrow* afternoon will go forward to Sunday's race, which will mark the first appearance of several cars. Andretti will be giving the latest Lotus-built John Player Special Mark 4 its first race; Rene Arnoux will have the new Martini Mark 23, and both Clay Regazzoni and Hans Stuck will drive new Shadow DN9s; all four cars are powered by the *Ford* DFV engine.

Hunt will be at the wheel of his McLaren M26 (last year's British Grand Prix winner) and Fittipaldi will drive the Copersucar with which he was runner-up in Brazil in January. The race will renew the rivalry between Ronnie Peterson (JPS) and Patrick Depailler (Tyrell), who battled wheel to wheel to a breathtaking finish in the recent South African Grand Prix; *it* will also provide Lauda with the chance to demonstrate the potential of the latest Brabham-Alfa Romeo on a fast and completely resurfaced circuit.

Derek Daly (Ireland) replaces Eddie Cheever in one of the Hesketh entries (Divina Galica drives the other car) and there are entries for Rupert Keegan (Surtees), Jochen Mass (ATS), Lamberto Leoni (Ensign), Keke Rosberg (Theodore), Brett Lunger and Tony Trimmer (McLaren M23s) and Arturo Merzario in his own car. The race, which is sponsored by the *Daily Express*, will be supported by 20-lap events for Formula 3 and saloon cars and a 12-lap race for Formula Ford racing cars.

Great Britain party

Twenty five players have been named for the Great Britain women's hockey trials to be held on March 21 and 22 at the Manchester University athletic ground, Fallowfield. They are:

ENGLAND: K. Dodd, S. Franks, P. Gibbon, L. Hurley, J. Jurischka, V. Robinson, M. Conyave, J. Swinnerton.
NORTHERN IRELAND: S. Beggs, J. Givan, M. Gleghorne, V. McBride.
SCOTLAND: E. Borrowman, M. Brown, M. Craigie, W. MacCallum, E. Paterson.
WALES: A. Ellis, J. Foston, P. Jones, S. Morgan, M. Morgan, S. Morrow, J. Nelmes, M. Rainbow

Giant slalom put off

Arosa, Switzerland, March 16.—The last women's World Cup giant slalom ski race of the season, due to be run here today, has been postponed until tomorrow because of strong winds, the organizers announced. The race will decide whether Lise-Marie Morerod of Switzerland or Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein captures the world giant slalom title.—Reuter.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Flyers 2, New York Rangers 2; Toronto Maple Leafs 5, Washington Capitals 2; Cleveland Barons 2, Colorado Rockies 2; Montreal Canadiens 6, Chicago Black Hawks 2; Atlanta Flames 6, St Louis Blues 2; Vancouver Canucks 7, Pittsburgh Penguins 4.
WORLD ASSOCIATION: New England Whalers 7, Indianapolis Racers 0; Cincinnati Stingers 7, Birmingham Bulls 2; Winnipeg Jets 8, Edmonton Oilers 4.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Avoriaz	180	240	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-2
Strong winds, few lifts open							
Grindelwald	5	105	Good	Varied	Poor	Cloud	5
Föhn wind on upper slopes							
Isola 2000	180	250	Fair	Varied	Good	Snow	-2
New snow on hard base							
La Plagne	200	300	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-2
More snow on hard base							
Mürren	70	160	Fair	Crust	Fair	Snow	-3
Some lifts closed by winds							
Niederau	20	40	Bad	Varied	Poor	Cloud	7
Some new snow							
St Anton	30	390	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	5
Heavy overnight snow							
St Moritz	75	130	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	-5
Powder on north facing slopes							
Val d'Isère	150	390	Fair	Powder	Fair	Snow	0
Good powder on open runs							
Zermatt	160	270	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	7
Some new snow							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	—	35	Poor	—	1
Hindelang	20	50	Spring	—	3
Kleinwalsertal	60	130	Good	—	1
Mittenwald	0	20	Poor	—	5
Oberammergau	10	25	Poor	—	5
Oberstaufen	45	80	Fair	—	-1
ITALY					
Abetone	100	150	—	—	—
Bardonecchia	100	350	—	—	—
Canazei	35	150	—	—	—
Cervinia	170	350	—	—	—
Claviere	200	270	—	—	—
Cortina	60	120	—	—	—
Corvara	40	180	—	—	—
Livigno	100	130	—	—	—
Macugnaga	110	300	—	—	—
Madesimo	140	310	—	—	—
Madonna di C	120	290	—	—	—
San Martino	130	250	—	—	—
Selva	60	130	—	—	—
Sestriere	190	260	—	—	—
Vipiteno	0	130	—	—	—
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	30	120	Good	Cloud	5
Arosa	110	120	Good	Cloud	-1
Braunwald	100	140	Spring	Sun	0
Champéry	20	120	Spring	Fair	—
Chateau d'Oex	10	60	Good	Cloud	0
Disentis	40	170	Spring	Cloud	7
Gstaad	0	60	Spring	Cloud	6
Kandersteg	15	50	Good	Fair	8
Klosters	50	175	Good	Sun	5
Lenzerheide	60	100	Good	Sun	-2
Les Diablerets	50	320	Good	Cloud	—
Leysin	10	80	Spring	Cloud	0
Morgins	70	120	Sun	Cloud	0
Pontresina	50	160	Good	Sun	-3
Saanenmöser	40	80	Good	Cloud	-2
Saas-Fee	85	200	Good	Fair	-5
Villars	30	100	Spring	Cloud	-4
Wildhaus	30	100	Good	Sun	3

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: Main runs and lower slopes: all runs complete, new snow, moderate drifting: Vertical runs: 1,800ft: Access roads: slight snow; snow level: 1,400ft. Glenshee: Main runs: a few complete but narrow, all others broken, spring snow: Lower slopes: limited nursery areas, spring snow: Vertical runs: 1,000ft: Access roads: clear: Snow level: 2,000ft. Glencoe: Main runs: all complete, new snow on a hard base: Lower slopes: limited nursery areas, new snow: Vertical runs: 1,300ft: Access roads: clear: Snow level: 2,300ft.

Football

Liverpool threaten to retain Cup as rivals scrape into semi-finals

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

While Liverpool were gently strolling into the semi-final round of the European Cup by beating Benfica 4—1 at Anfield on Wednesday night, Britain's only other survivor in Continental competition this season, Aston Villa, were suffering for their comparative inexperience in Barcelona. Whatever Nottingham Forest may have to say in their own defence in tomorrow's Football League Cup final at Wembley, the wily old *champions* still have plenty to offer.

Villa, unfortunately, fell for most of the tricks of the European trade in their Uefa Cup quarter-final round tie. They had commendably fought back from a two-goal deficit in the last 10 minutes of their first leg at Villa Park to give themselves a slight chance in Spain. They had been unable to close Cruyff's channels of approach, but even the best teams in the world have been beguiled by this amazing athlete. They had also suffered from exceedingly lax refereeing at Villa Park. One felt that the odds were heavily against them in Spain, yet there was a suspicion that Cruyff apart, Barcelona were not a particularly well-balanced or outstandingly talented team.

So it proved, but the crucial difference was in Villa's gullability. The ruthless Barcelona tackles of the first leg turned to more subtle provocation. "Off the ball" incidents have to be lived with in these European matches and Liverpool's success has depended to some extent on not being disrupted by these unhappily inevitable tactics.

Villa, with a large proportion of young players, undoubtedly suffered though not in silence. Gidman was sent off after only 23 minutes for what the manager, Ron Saunders, said was only an attempted kick at De la Cruz. Whether he mistimed his attempt was beside the point. The action put the team in jeopardy. Although they took the lead, it was left to Rimmer to delay the 2—1 defeat. I have rarely seen a more praiseworthy goalkeeping performance.

It was difficult to understand why Villa felt that Gidman was badly treated by the Turkish referee even if there was some provocation. He has, however, been disciplined by the club. Mr Saunders had said before the match that he hoped his players would receive more protection than they had in the first leg. Mr Babacan certainly went some way towards achieving that. Mr Saunders also said that such a match would offer *his players the* equivalent *of* six months "bread and butter" football. In retrospect the team may feel *the* experience was valuable and they may appreciate Liverpool's success all the more. In fairness one must add that in a difficult season for them, Villa had a remarkably good European run.

Barcelona, with Neeskens almost fit again, are expected to reach the Uefa Cup final, and Liverpool are threatening to retain the European Cup. Liverpool's opponents of last season's final, Borussia Mönchen Gladbach, only went into today's draw by virtue of the away goal that they scored at Innsbruck where they lost 3—1 a fortnight before. They scored the necessary two goals on Wednesday but no more and Juventus remain Liverpool's most dangerous rival.

Even the Italians had some difficulty, winning by way of penalty goals against Ajax, and the outsiders of the four, FC Bruges, could yet surprise them all. They were unlucky enough to meet Borussia Mönchen Gladbach in the quarter-final round *last* season, losing by only *one* goal.

European football results

EUROPEAN CUP: Quarter-final round, second leg: Liverpool 4, Benfica 1 (Liverpool won 6—2 on aggregate); Borussia Mönchen Gladbach 2, Wacker Innsbruck 0 (3—3: Borussian won on away goal); Juventus 1, Ajax 1 (2—2: Juventus won on penalties); Athletic Madrid 3, FC Bruges 2 (Bruges won 4—3).

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final round, second leg: Moscow Dynamo 3, Real Betis 0 (Moscow won 3—0); Hajduk Split 1, Austria Vienna 1 (2—2: Vienna won on penalties); Anderlecht 3, Porto 0 (Anderlecht won 3—1); Twente Enschede 4, BK Vejle 0 (Twente won 7—0).

UEFA CUP: Quarter-final round, second leg: Barcelona 2, Aston Villa 1 (Barcelona won 4—3); PSV Eindhoven 4, FC Magdeburg 2 (Eindhoven won 4—3); Carl Zeiss Jena 4, Bastia 2 (Bastia won 9—6); Grasshoppers Zurich 1, Eintracht Frankfurt 0 (3—3: Grasshoppers won on away goals).

Philadelphia seek Best for £100,000

Philadelphia Furies, an American club, have offered £100,000 for George Best, the Northern Ireland international who is still registered with second division Fulham.

Furies are the third American side to have shown interest in Best. Los Angeles Aztecs, the club he played for last summer, have first claim and another side have bid £45,000. The Fulham manager, Bobby Campbell, said: "I hope this thing sorts itself out soon for Best's sake."

Joe Jordan, Scotland's World Cup footballer, is out of Manchester United's side to meet West Bromwich Albion at Old Trafford tomorrow. Jordan, who has yet to be on the *winning side* in nine games, damaged a hamstring in Wednesday's game with Manchester City and was substituted.

Today's fixtures

7.30 unless stated

SECOND DIVISION: Charlton Athletic v Notts County; Orient v Fulham.

THIRD DIVISION: Colchester United v Cambridge United; Peterborough Utd v Port Vale; Swindon Town v Chester.

FOURTH DIVISION: Aldershot v Grimsby Town; Bournemouth v Northampton Town; Crewe Alexandra v Reading; Newport County v Watford (7.15); Southend United v Wimbledon (7.45); Swansea City v Stockport County.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Wigan Athletic v Runcorn.

RUGBY UNION: Bath v Ebbw Vale (7.15); Bedford v Saracens; Sale v Northampton; Leicester v RAF (7.15); Pontypridd v Abertillery (7.0); Rosslyn Park v London Welsh.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Castleford v Leeds; Salford v St Helens.

Forest go to Wembley confident of success

Nottingham Forest will set out for Wembley today in a confident mood for tomorrow's League Cup final, despite injury doubts over their captain, John McGovern, and full back, Colin Barrett.

The manager, Brian Clough, said yesterday: "*Obviously Liverpool* have tasted more of the big match atmosphere over the past few years. In fact they have been to Wembley more times than our goalkeeper, Chris Woods, has played league games. But I have every confidence in the lads. We have a great team and whatever the result we will certainly play football. Our aim is to bring the Cup back to Nottingham.

"It's not every day you are in the Cup final and we intend to make the most *of the occasion* by enjoying every second. Some of my players have not even seen Wembley, never mind play there, but it will be a big day in their lives. We haven't had that much time to think about Saturday's game and I suppose the same is true of *Liverpool*."

Shilton, Needham and Gemmill are ineligible and Clark, a veteran defender, looks set to keep his place because of Barrett's foot injury, which he received almost three weeks ago against Norwich City. But McGovern, who *has* a groin strain, should be fit.

Mr Clough added: "We are facing the European champions, a side that has absorbed all manner of pressures for the last decade and still keeps coming back for more. But at the same time we have made such gigantic strides that my kids are beginning to believe in Jack and the Beanstalk. Liverpool have had 10 years' start on us but we are catching up pretty quickly. Their success over the past few seasons has been phenomenal, but they are not the best side in the country at the moment—because we are."

If Forest win the League Cup tomorrow, there will be no celebrating until the end of the season. Forest have rejected the chance of a civic reception on Sunday. Instead the side, who are chasing the League Cup—championship double, will spend the day travelling to Scarborough, in preparation for Tuesday's match at Middlesbrough. Ken Smales, the club secretary, said: "We would have liked to accept the chance of a reception, but the midweek game had to come first."

Mr Clough has also ruled out the usual Saturday night champagne. Forest will leave Wembley immediately after the final, regardless of the result.

The Football Association have decided to take no action against Bristol Rovers over crowd misconduct at an FA Cup fourth round game when visiting Southampton supporters invaded the pitch.

At a hearing in Birmingham yesterday the commission decided that Bristol had taken all reasonable *precautions against crowd* misconduct. The club were reported after a mass invasion at Eastville on January 28, which Rovers won 2—0.

Rovers' vice-chairman, Alan Seager, and the club secretary, Peter Terry, pleaded the club's case and the commission also heard details of the incident from Chief Supt Ted Furber of the Avon and Somerset police.

Rugby League

Warrington set on gaining revenge

Widnes, the first division leaders, face their most formidable task of the season at Wilderspool on Sunday in the quarter final round of the Rugby League Challenge Cup. They come up against a Warrington side running into form and set on gaining revenge for their 1975 Wembley defeat by Widnes. Both teams won mid-week games, but Warrington emphasized their mood by gaining two League points despite fielding a side containing seven reserves.

Widnes stay marginal favourites, but the experience of John Bevan and Parry Gordon, together with the tactical expertise of their coach, Alex Murphy, should swing the balance Warrington's way.

The League's most prolific scorers St Helens, who have topped 500 points while only one other first division side has exceeded the 400 mark, will be expected to put in another high-scoring performance against Huddersfield, the only remaining second division team. Huddersfield, however, were expected to be easy meat for Salford in the previous round. Huddersfield are still in with a chance of promotion. This remains their top priority but St Helens must be careful not to underrate them as Salford did.

Perhaps the biggest tensions of the day will be at Headingley where Leeds entertain local rivals, Bradford Northern, to revive memories of a Wembley final in 1947 when Bradford won 8—4.

Golf

Pro-am combination find their touch in the snow

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

The "pro-am" combination of Mary Everard and Vivien Saunders moved up from sixth position at the halfway stage of the Avia women's foursomes at the Berkshire Club yesterday, and taking the lead midway through the afternoon, held it to the end. They finished five strokes clear of the overnight leaders, Hegwen Perkins and Mary McKenna, and their total for the day of 148 (75, 73), was the lowest I can remember for years on the final day.

For much of the morning a feeble kind of horizontal snow threatened to cause the fourth interruption in the last eight years of the event, but unlike Cheltenham, the snow did not lie, and apart from blotting out the ball on the longer shots, caused little real interference.

Their 37 to the turn on the Blue in such weather was still outstanding, and set them on the upward path. The transformation was not as sudden as it sounds. From the start of the tournament they both felt they were striking the ball well. "We frittered away several shots on the short game simply because we had not been in competition *for* months." Miss Saunders with a busy coaching programme, had played only one or two full rounds this year.

But when the weather made it least expected, they found their *touch, Miss Saunders chipping* well, so that they made good fours at such holes as the eighth on the *Blue*, and the fourth on the Red in the afternoon. They also had two twos going out in the final round and a birdie at the ninth put them out in 34.

For the *last* act, the *sky* cleared, leaving pools on the fairway but no wind, and once again it was shown that a course playing long and heavy is better for scoring than frostbound fairways. Miss Saunders, who won a first prize of £20000, showed signs of pressure at the end—they took five at the short 72nd—but it was a fine performance from one who does not have much chance to compete. Last year's winners, Miss Perkins and Miss McKenna, never threatened once the gap had been closed.

310, Miss M. Everard (Hallamshire) and Miss V. Saunders (Tyrrells Wood), 80, 82, 75, 73.
315, Miss T. Perkins (Wenvoe Castle) and Miss M. McKenna (Donabate), 78, 77, 72, 82.
318, Mrs A. Sander and Mrs L. Bayman (Sunningdale), 76, 83, 81, 78.
319, Miss C. Barker (Hartlepool) and Miss V. Martin (Easingwold) 78, 84, 82, 75.
320, Mrs D. Henson (West Byfleet) and Mrs B. Lewis (Rochford Hundred), 77, 84, 81, 78.
323, Mrs S. Westall (Olton) and Mrs A. Sant (Bean Desert), 78, 83, 80, 82.
325, Mrs B. Garcia Ogara and Miss C. Maestre (Spain), 80, 82, 75, 86.
324, Mrs A. Uzielli (Berkshire) and Mrs S. Roy (Cawder), 83, 79, 80, 82.
325, Mrs J. Chapman (Willesley Park) and Miss M. Burton (Camberley), 77, 84, 82, 80.
329, Mrs A. Briggs (Royal Liverpool) and Miss H. Latham (Caldy), 78, 85, 87, 79.
347, Miss V. Butler and Miss S. Gorman (Milltown), 83, 79, 93, 92.

Some comfort as Oxford attempt to stem tide

By Peter Ryde

Oxford and Cambridge golf teams meet for their eighty-ninth match in 100 years at Rye today and tomorrow. For much of that period there was little between them, but since 1934 Cambridge have shown marked superiority so that they now have 50 victories to Oxford's 33 with five halved.

Five of Cambridge's victories have come in the last six years and it is against the background of their heaviest defeat at Royal Porthcawl last year, that Oxford will be trying to reverse the trend.

The Cambridge captain, J. M. T. Wanman, has five of that victorious team playing today in addition to last year's two reserves. Cambridge have the better record in terms of victories against clubs throughout the year after a slow start. Oxford can draw comfort from having kept two of their best from last year's defeat in their captain and secretary, R. G. Hurst and I. Armitage.

DINNER MATCH (Cambridge names first): A. Knight and J. Tunnicliffe beat M. Chetwood and P. Oliver, 4 and 3; Knight beat Chetwood, 2 and 1; Tunnicliffe lost to Lever, 3 and 1.

Badminton

Favourite totters and the top seeds fail

By Richard Streeton

Defeats for the top-seeded Danes, Svend Pri and Lene Köppen, the women's world champion, brought unexpected results at the All-England badminton championships, sponsored by John Player, at Wembley yesterday. Their elimination, however, was overshadowed by a narrow escape for the favourite, Rudy Hartono, of Indonesia, seeking the title for the ninth time.

Hartono's narrow third round win against Sture Johnsson, Sweden's No two, had the crowd on the edge of their seats. Johnsson, who only resumed playing a month ago after a knee operation, is one of the few Europeans ever to have troubled the Indonesian. He beat him in West Germany in 1972 and almost toppled him at Wembley two years later. This time Johnsson was 4—1 ahead after the third game had gone to setting before Hartono perilously fought back to win an epic match 15—9, 10—15, 18—17.

There was tension throughout with Hartono making uncharacteristic errors at the net and finding trouble with his length. He saved three game points before succumbing in the second and, after a shaky start, drew away from 5—5 to lead 10—6 in the third. Hartono had been changing his racket frequently—strings had gone on all four he had with him, it transpired—and at 12—10 ahead he gesticulated to the umpire that he had no more rackets to use.

Johnsson had offered Hartono one of his rackets and, wh[...] umpire ruled play should [...] time, the Indonesian picke[d] one of Johnsson's racket[s] immediately dropped three [...] before a team colleague [...] him a replacement. At 1—3 in the setting Hartono's [...] was faulted but the Swede hit out and then netted; [...] score reached 4—4.

In the closing rally Joh[nsson] finally returned a shot wide close to the net on Hartono's [ser]vice and tumbled to the g[round] in dismay. Hartono leapt i[n the] air; he knew just how clo[se he] had come to being eliminat[ed. He] had a far easier time at the [...] stage against Morten Frost H[ansen] (Denmark).

Pri was beaten, 15—10, [...] by Liem Swie King (Indo[nesia]). He has complained this we[ek of] pain in the shoulder and narrowly got past the [New] Zealander, Brian Purser, i[n the] previous round after being [...] down in the third game.

Flemming Delfs, the [...] champion, was another Da[nish] trouble. He beat Padukone [Prak]ash (India) to reach the [...] final round after being 3—[...] hind in the third game, and 15—11 on his ninth match [...]

Miss Köppen, joint top [...] with Gillian Gilks, has neve[r en]joyed playing at Wembley [with] its air drafts, unsettling for [...] players who rely more on [...] than strength. She was b[eaten] 11—8, 6—11, 11—8, by W[endy] Clarkson, the Canadian N[o...] seeded here for the first [...]

Results at All-England event

Men's singles

THIRD ROUND: Liem Swie King (Indonesia) beat Torben Nielsen (Denmark), 15—4, 15—2; T. Kihlstrom (Sweden) beat M. J. Wilks, 15—9, 15—4; I. Sumirat (Indonesia) beat K. Zeniya (Japan), 15—1, 15—3; P. Prakash (India) beat M. Tsuchida (Japan), 15—5, 18—14; F. Delfs (Denmark) beat C. Lundberg (Sweden), 15—12, 15—3; S. Pri (Denmark) beat B. R. Purser (New Zealand), 15—18, 16—9, 15—12; M. Frost Hansen (Denmark) beat R. Fahrenholz (Denmark), 15—8, 15—8; R. Hartono (Indonesia) beat S. Johnsson (Sweden), 15—9, 10—15, [18—17].

FOURTH ROUND: Liem Swie King beat Pri, 15—10, 15—5; Sumirat beat Kihlstrom, 6—15, 15—8, 15—4; Delfs beat Prakash, 5—15, 15—8, 15—11; Hartono beat Frost Hansen, 15—8, 15—7.

Women's singles

THIRD ROUND: Miss S. Kando (Japan) beat Miss K. S. Bridge, 8—11, 11—5, 11—4; Miss J. Van Beuseköm (Netherlands) beat Miss P. Nielsen (Denmark), 11—7, 11—0; Miss M. Takada (Japan) beat Miss I. Borgstrom (Denmark), 11—3, 11—8; Miss H. Yuki (Japan) beat Mrs E. Zwiebler (West Germany), 11—2, 11—4.

FOURTH ROUND: Miss Yuki beat Miss Takada, 11—3, 11—3; Miss Kondon beat Miss Van Beuseköm, 9—11, 11—7, 11—2; Miss W. Clarkson (Canada) beat Miss L. Koppen (Denmark), 11—8, 6—11, 11—8; G. M. Gilks (Surrey) beat A. Tokuda (Japan), 11—0, 11—7.

The following results were received too late for inclusion i[n] earlier editions yesterday:

Men's singles

FIRST ROUND: F. Delfs (Den[mark]) beat J. P. Bauduin (Belgium), [...] 15—0; R. H. Purser (NZ) be[at ...] Ridder (Netherlands), 14—18, 1[...] ret.

SECOND ROUND: Pri beat K. [...] (Japan), 15—5, 15—4; Liem [Swie] King beat Hansen, 15—8, [...] Torben Nielsen beat Lim, [...] 15—9, 15—11; Wilks beat [...] 15—6, 17—14; Sumirat beat [...] 15—5, 15—7; Zeniya beat [...] 15—11, 15—7; Delfs beat [...] Millan (SA), 15—11, 15—6; [...] Hansen beat S. Sharma (India), [...] 15—8; Johnsson beat Togawa, [...] 15—4; B. Purser beat Tredgett, [...] 15—10; Kihlstrom beat Hoffelin, [...] 17—15; Tsuchida beat Wal[...] 15—2, 15—8; Prakash beat [...] 15—3, 15—7; Lundbert beat [...] Cronkamp (SA), 15—7, 15—7; [Har]tono beat White, 15—9, 15—1.

Women's singles

SECOND ROUND: Miss Jen[...] Mrs Rietveld Nielsen, 11—4, [...] Mrs Zwiebler beat Miss A. [...] (Sweden), 2—11, 11—8, 11—[...] Borgstrom beat Miss Verawaty, [...] 11—3; Miss Takada beat Mrs [...] 11—6, 11—9; Miss Van Beu[seköm] beat Miss Boyer, 11—1, 8—11, [...] Miss Bridge beat Miss Iwin, [...] 11—8; Miss Nielsen beat Miss [...] vanti, 11—4, 11—5; Miss Kondo [...] Miss Christensen, 11—1, 11—1.

THIRD ROUND: Miss Clarkson [...] Miss Yeuno, 11—2, 11—6; Miss K[...] beat Miss Webster, 11—3, 11—[...] Gilks beat Miss Yonekura, 1[...] 11—6; Miss Tokuda beat Miss [...] 11—3, 11—1.

Swimming

FINA decide against 198[0] Olympic Games boycott

Mexico City, March 16.—The Federation of International Swimming Associations (FINA) have decided not to boycott the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow, their president, Javier Ostos, has announced.

FINA are in dispute with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) about reinstating three swimming events which were dropped from the 1976 Olympics. In Montreal, the 50-kilometre walk was also dropped but this has been reinstated for Moscow and FINA want their three races back too. Mr Ostos said that after ignoring FINA's petition for a year, the IOC have agreed to hear their case at a meeting in Athens in May.

Mr Ostos said FINA were also concerned about an amendment to IOC rules, taking responsibility for selection of swimmers in the Olympic Games out of the hands of national associations and giving it to national Olympic committees. But he said the IOC president, Lord Killanin, had agreed that this rule change would be fur[ther] studied.

Mr Ostos added that FINA [in]tended to press the IOC to [rein]state their three events and [...] the new discipline of synchr[onized] swimming in the 1980 Olym[pic] programme. FINA have can[vassed] the views of their 116 [...] associations and of the 87 [...] received so far a large [...] said they would back [...] they decided to withdraw fro[m the] 1984 Olympics.

The Federation have [de]cided to amend their rule [...] competition with non-affi[liated] countries, which could ope[n the] way for China to move into [...] swimming.

Mr Ostos has announced [plans] for a new international swim[ming] competition, to be named [the] FINA Cup, clearly modelled o[n the] athletics World Cup. It would [in]volve one representative of [...] of eight regional teams comp[eting] in the whole range of swim[ming] events and might be staged [as] early as next year, he sa[id].—Reuter.

From the rough days of the Iron Hut to the studious approach of Rye

Odd-balls on university courses

The University golf teams of 100 years ago underwent a much less thorough preparation than their successors taking part in the centenary match at Rye today. This year's players have been at Rye for a week or more, their records throughout the year scrutinized before the final selection was made.

In 1878 the teams of four made their way to the London Scottish Iron Hut on Wimbledon Common by train to London, across to Waterloo by cab, train to Putney and another cab up the hill to the course. After a light lunch the contest was fought over one round, and the Oxford team at least had to be back in college the same evening.

Horace Hutchinson was in the first Oxford side who won by 24 holes up, and it must be a heartening thought to all who have followed, that so distinguished an amateur should a year later have lost his match after being three up with five to play, against F. G. Pattison who was never heard of again. Cambridge had their figurehead in W. T. Linskill about whom legends abound. According to Bernard Darwin he showed no signs of passing his little-go exam and his mother and father took a house at Cambridge until he should do so. There, many years later, they died, their hopes still unfulfilled.

With a fine disregard for the niceties of *his situation* Linskill continued to play for Cambridge, *with notable lack of success*, until 1883. In 1882 a Major Gardner appeared in the Cambridge team, recruited when a member of the team previously chosen fell in to Linskill's disfavour. The major, who was adjutant to the University Volunteers, performed with suitable gallantry holing his putt to halve his match and enabling Oxford to retain their overall one-hole lead.

Oxford might be excused for calling this a blatant piece of cheating, but Linskill is firmly entrenched as the founder of *Cambridge golf. Also rules* were much less established in those days. In 1881, because bad weather had prevented adequate practice, the match was called off. In 1887 one of the Oxford team met with an accident, and the evening before the match the captain went into the rooms of the man who was later to become Lord Russell, of Killowen, and asked him whether he played golf. On being told no, he said: "A pity, if you had done you could have played against Cambridge tomorrow."

At that time golf was an almost unknown game south of the border. A few distinguished names pursued it, but most undergraduates believed that golfers practised some unholy rite in not very cheerful surroundings. Gradually the picture changed. By the 1890s the teams were firmly established as eight in number and by moving to Sandwich and spending one night there some of the players at least had the chance to play the course once before the match.

Nowadays, Wimbledon Common sounds an odd place to have held the match, but the choice in those days was not wide. The two university courses were mudpatches, Coldham Common outside Cambridge being described by Darwin as the worst course in the world, and seven years before the first amateur championship was not a time when many courses existed. Altogether 17 courses have been used, most of them links although Sunningdale, Woking and Woodhall Spa testify to a seaside course not being an inviolable tradition.

More recent Blues, who remember the drenching they had at Royal Porthcawl, can draw comfort from the accounts of earlier matches. In 1898 conditions were so bad at Sandwich that half the matches gave up and walked in ostensibly because they had exhausted their stock of balls. P. W. Leathart, of Clare, playing F. H. Mitchell, of Balliol, had two air shots off one tee through being blown off his feet. But he won the hole because Mitchell hit the ball far enough into the snow to lose it. The referee, from the security of the Bell hotel, decided the matches must be finished, and more than one delinquent competitor had to cut short his bath and get back out there.

In 1900 Sandwich was the scene of another drama, Oxford's biggest victory by 69 holes up to none. Mansfield Hunter contributed 14 of them as leader of one of the strongest teams ever. Exuberance overflowed in the evening when the local bobby lost his trousers and the teams tried vainly to pitch the toll keeper's hut into the river Stour.

It was at Woking in 1904 that C. H. Alison, having prodigiously hooked his second on to the r[oof] of the clubhouse, procured [a] ladder and finding his ball o[n a] flat piece of lead, struck i[t to] within four yards of the flag [and] narrowly missed winning the h[ole].

In 1907 there occurred a re[sult] as cruel as anything I have he[ard] of in golf. The bare bones o[f it] were that Oxford lost the m[atch] by 23 holes to 22 in spite of [hav]ing won more individual mat[ches]. In the words of a chronicl[er] "The match hung on the q[ues]tion how many of the last [...] holes a sick man could hal[ve]." C. N. Bruce could not h[old on] enough and his loss of 13 h[oles] more than offset the efforts of [the] team he captained.

It was not until after the [...] that foursomes, two more pla[yers] and a second day were added, [but] not until 1928 that extra h[oles] were eliminated. The year be[fore] R. H. Oppenheimer had been [en]gaged in the longest match [...] when he lost at the 41st to G[...] Grimwade. The weather was [...] atrocious that at Hoylake's [...] hole he needed a driver, [two] brassies and a two iron to r[each] the green. Since the match [had] already gone against Oxford it [was] decided that in future no [one] should play more than [...] round.

There have since been two [...] matches, in 1962 and 1978, [but] it has never been seriously [put] forward that the old method s[hould] be restored. One more experi[ment] was tried with the format, [fol]lowing the fashion set by [the] Walker and Ryder Cup mat[ches ...] contests were reduced to 18 h[oles]. Strength was added to the a[rgu]ment by Cambridge's resoun[ding] victory by 10 points the year [...] force, but it so happened tha[t the] following years the results [were] hopelessly one-sided and the [ex]periment was not a success.

Thirty-six hole matches [are] right for undergraduates, for [...] this encounter may well for[m a] climax so their golfing care[ers]. The university match does [not] attract the interest it used [to] partly because the best pla[yers] are now recruited elsewhere.

Since the war only eight [...] have played against the [United] States, the last of them in [...] David Marsh, having come [...] from Cambridge in 195[...]

Peter [Ryde]

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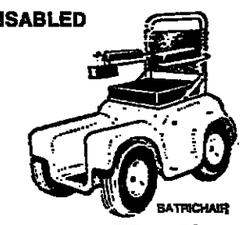
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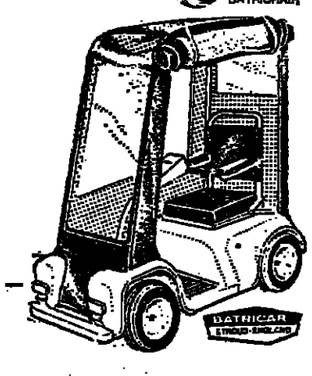


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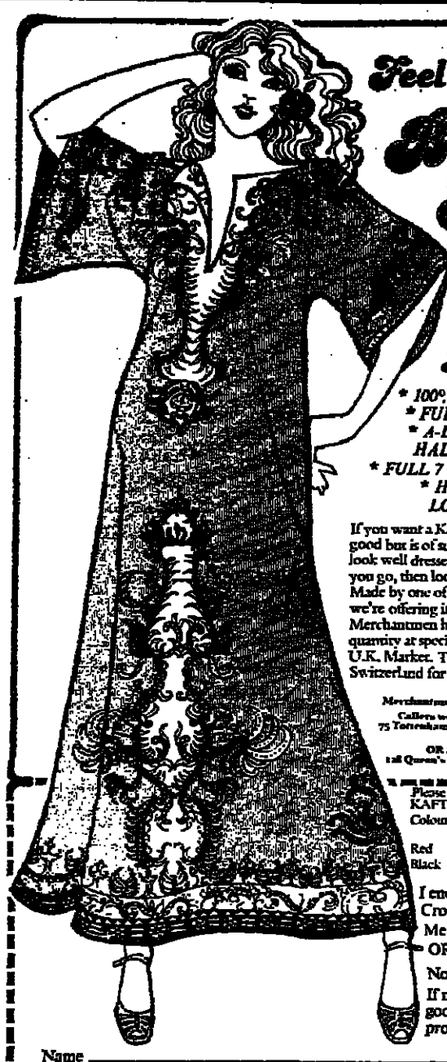
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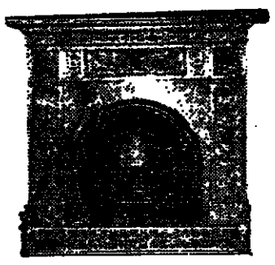
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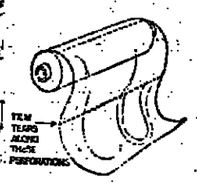
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LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of BENJAMIN KNITWEAR Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP are required, on or before the 13th day of April, 1978, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned PHILIP MONJACK FCA, of 3/4 Bedford Street, London, W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 9th day of March 1978.

P. MONJACK
Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of MODERN MAN (FASHIONS) Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP are required, on or before the 13th day of April, 1978, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned PHILIP MONJACK FCA, of 3/4 Bedford Street, London W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 9th day of March 1978

PHILIP MONJACK
Liquidator.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act, 1925 that any person having a claim against or an interest in the estate of EMILY JANE BURN of 32 Southborough Road, Bickley, Bromley, Kent is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to Miss Nellie Mahony at 153 Hazel Grove, Dunton Road, London, SE1, and to send such particulars before two months from expiry from the date of this advertisement to the said Miss Nellie Mahony after which date the Executrix will distribute the Estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which she has had notice and will not as respects the property so distributed, be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have had notice

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of the Companies Acts, 1948 to 1976 and in the Matter of CANDIAN HOLDINGS & INVESTMENTS Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the above-named Company will be held at the Offices of W. H. Cork Gully & Co., Chartered Accountants, of Guildhall House, 81/87, Gresham Street, London EC2V 7DS, on Friday, the 7th day of April, 1978, at 11.45 a.m., to be followed at 12 noon by a General Meeting of Creditors for the purpose of receiving an account of the Liquidator's Acts and Dealings and of the conduct of the Winding-Up to date.

Dated this 10th day of March, 1978.

M. A. JORDAN,
Liquidator.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

PROVIDENT MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the 137th Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Council Chamber, Chartered Insurance Institute, 20, Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HY, on Friday, 14 April, 1978, at 12.30 p.m., to include the following:

1 To adopt the Report and Accounts for 1977.
2 To confirm the appointment of Sir Brian Richardson as a Director of the Association.
3 To confirm the appointment of Sir Colin Edward Hughes as a Director of the Association.
4 To re-elect Sir David Lan, Manwaring Robertson as a Director of the Association.
5 To re-elect Mr. Peter Baring as a Director of the Association.
6 To re-elect Sir Eric Griffith-Jones as a Director of the Association.
7 To re-appoint Pannell Fitzpatrick & Co. as auditors of the Association to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting.

C. W. Sterling, Secretary.
17 March, 1978.

COMPANY NOTICES

KINGDOM OF NORWAY
U.S. $23,000,000 5¾% 20 Year External Loan of 1964

Bondholders of the above Loan are advised that the Redemption due on the 15th May, 1978, i.e. U.S. $1,004,000 nominal, has been effected by purchase.

HAMBROS BANK LIMITED
17th March, 1978.

PUBLIC NOTICES

COUNTER-INFLATION ACT 1973 (1972 c.9)
NOTICE
under Section 6

To: British Gas Corporation, 326 High Holborn, London WC1.

The Price Commission, in exercise of their powers under section 6 of, and paragraph 1(6) of Schedule 3 to, the Counter-Inflation Act 1973, hereby give you notice that the notice dated 14 July 1977 given to you under section 6(2) and (3) of the said Act is hereby revoked.

Dated 10 March 1978

E. H. DOLING,
Signed on behalf of the Price Commission.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH FACULTY OF MUSIC BURSARY FOR THE STUDY OF SCOTTISH MUSIC

The Helen Dey Bursary is open for award annually in the Faculty of Music, for the purpose of promoting the study of Scottish Music.

Particulars and application forms may be obtained from The Faculty of Music, Alison House, 12 Nicolson Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9BH.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Central School of Speech Training and Dramatic Art will be held at the EMBASSY THEATRE, 64 ETON AVENUE, LONDON, NW3 3HY on MONDAY, 17th APRIL, 1978, at 5.00 p.m., for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following Resolutions which will be proposed as Special Resolutions:—

RESOLUTIONS

1. That, with the agreement of the Department of Trade, the name of the School be changed to The Central School of Speech and Drama.
2. That clauses 3, 4 and 10 of the existing Memorandum of Association of the School be deleted and the revised clauses 3 and 4 a print of which was produced to the Meeting and initialled by the Chairman for the purposes of identification be and they are hereby substituted for the existing clauses 3 and 4 of the Memorandum of Association.
3. That the Articles of Association produced to the Meeting and initialled by the Chairman for the purposes of identification be and they are hereby adopted as the Articles of Association of The Central School of Speech and Drama in substitution for the existing Articles of Association and to the exclusion of all other Articles of Association.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1978.

By Order of the Board of Governors.
ERIC NEWSOME,
Registrar.

Embassy Theatre, Eton Avenue, London NW3 3HY

NOTE.—There are no provisions for proxy votes. Thus it will be necessary for members to attend at the meeting in order to record their votes. Copies of the revised Memorandum and Articles of Association in draft form can be obtained on request from the Registrar of the School. Mr. E. Newsome, Central School of Speech and Drama, Embassy Theatre, Eton Avenue, London, NW3 3HY. Tel. 01-722 8183 or can be inspected at that address on Monday-Fridays during usual business hours.

HUNMANBY HALL SCHOOL GOLDEN JUBILEE REUNION

The Governors and Headmistress invite all Old Girls to visit the school on Friday, 23rd June, 1978, during the day and to attend a Reception in Scarborough at 8.00 p.m. Admission by ticket only.

Application to be made to the Headmistress's Secretary not later than 29th April, 1978.

All Old Girls are invited to share in all the special Jubilee activities arranged for that weekend.

I, MR. AMARJIT SINGH, son of Mr. Jagjit Singh Sawhney, whose permanent address in India is 30, Pusa Road, New Delhi-5 and is now living at 1, Landward Court, Harrowby Street, London, W.1, hereby give notice on my intention to change my name to Amarjit Singh Sawhney subject to the approval of the Irish Commission of India, London.

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The position duties include the analysis and prediction of reservoir behaviour, determination of well locations and analysis of the economics of various development alternatives. The ideal candidates will have an engineering degree and 5-10 years experience in reservoir engineering assignments. Familiarity with North Sea development and economics is desirable.

Salary is negotiable considering prior experience and fringe benefits are available.

If this opportunity interests you and you have the necessary qualifications please call or write in confidence to: Mr. L. P. Karnes, Kerr-McGee Oil (U.K.) Limited, 195 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RL. Telephone: 01-589 1434.

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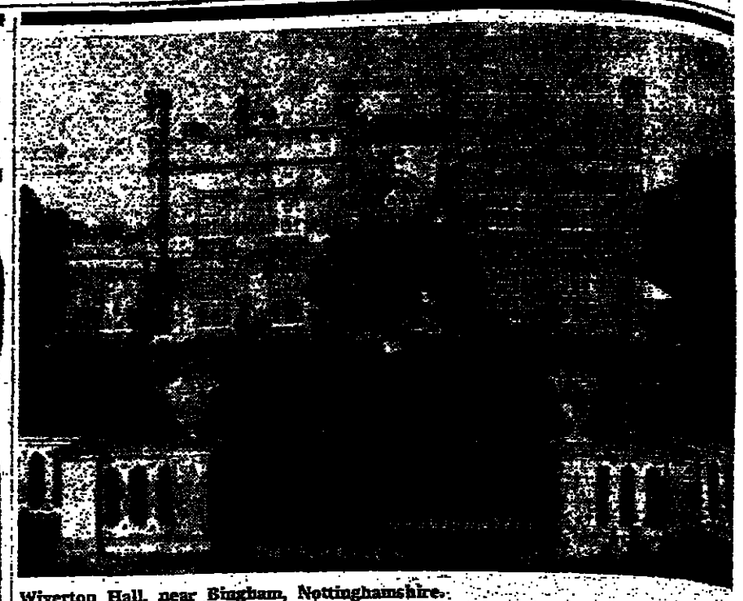
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Please write, in strict confidence, giving details of education, experience and present salary to Peter Rolandi, Managing Director.

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ASSOCIATED WITH COMPANIES WORLDWIDE



Wiverton Hall, near Bingham, Nottinghamshire.

Divided old houses popular

Parts of old country houses which in total would be too large for modern living are still a popular part of the housing market. One of the main advantages of this type of property is that it usually affords rooms of a spaciousness and quality above the average, often with an elegance greater than that to be found in smaller properties.

At the same time, such sections of larger buildings need not necessarily be cramped in the total amount of space they offer. Often they are substantial properties in their own right.

For instance, extensive accommodation is offered by Buckham Hill House, Uckfield, Sussex, which is the central part of a larger Georgian mansion dating from about 1793.

One of the features here is a large dining hall with a fine double staircase leading up to a galleried landing, and a drawing room some 34ft long with full-length french windows.

On the first floor there are three bedrooms and two bathrooms and on the floor above there are another sitting room and three more bedrooms plus a studio and a maid's room.

Gardens and grounds run to about three acres, and offers in the region of £65,000 are being asked through Braxton Watson and Co, of Uckfield.

A similar example is provided by a property called Tweed, at Boldre, in the New Forest. This is the larger part of a house dating from about the turn of the century and also affords extensive accommodation.

This includes three reception rooms, which have distant views over the Solent to the Isle of Wight, and four main bedrooms. In addition, there is a separate flat with a sitting room, bedroom and bathroom.

There are also good cellars and a separate garage block. Grounds extend to about two acres and the price is £56,000. The agents are Jackson and Jackson, of Lymington.

These agents, jointly with Knight Frank and Rutley, are also offering an interesting separate house in the same area. This is Little Salterns, at Bucklers Hard, near Beaulieu, which has been put on to the market by Air Marshal Sir John and Lady Whitley.

The house was built in 1916 and extended in about 1934, and also has views across to the Isle of Wight as well as the Beaulieu River. There are three reception rooms, a combined kitchen and breakfast room and five bedrooms, plus a staff flat with three bedrooms and a sitting room.

Grounds run to just under 4½ acres. Outbuildings include a workshop, sheds and also an area which could be used as a boat park. Offers in the region of £150,000 are being asked.

Architecturally interesting is Wiverton Hall, near Bingham, Nottinghamshire. The present house was built in 1814 in the castellated Gothic style and incorporates a restored gatehouse which is all that remains of the original fortified stone building.

Some modernization is required, but the accommodation includes a reception hall, four reception rooms, one of which, the dining room, is on the lower floor of the old gatehouse, six bedrooms and six bathrooms. There are also various attic rooms and a staff wing.

The land extends to just over 20 acres and includes three cottages and a stable block. The property has been put up for sale by the executors of Major-General Sir Miles Graham, who acquired it in 1947. During the war it was requisitioned by the Army. Strutt and Parker, the agents, are expecting offers in the region of £80,000.

Also architecturally unusual is The Old Brew House, a property of Georgian origins at Langton Long Blandford, near Blandford, Dorset. As the name implies at least part of the building was once used as a brew house.

It was built about 1838, of brick faced with Bath stone, and features include a three-bay arcaded loggia and an archway surmounted by a turret with a cupola. There are two main reception rooms, a study and four bedrooms, plus a self-contained bed-sitting room flat.

Something over £70,000 is required for the house with two acres of grounds, but a further 12½ acres would be available. The agents are Humberts, of Blandford.

Unusual in internal lay-out is a house called Marlowe, Stroud Common, Stroud Green, near Guildford, Surrey, where all the accommodation is on a single floor except for one large bedroom on the first floor. An added feature is that all the main rooms overlook a small lake in the grounds.

There are two reception rooms and four bedrooms, including the large bedroom on the stairs which is 29ft long. In addition there is a detached cottage a little distance away from the main house which could be screened off completely if required. This has a sitting room and a bedroom.

In all, the property comprises nearly three acres and is for sale at £82,500, although offers might be considered for the house without the cottage, which has a separate access. The agents are Weller Eggar, of Guildford.

The Court, at Cropwell Butler, Nottinghamshire, some 10 miles from Nottingham, is a house which has many characteristics of eighteenth-century origin, including a shallow pitched roof. There are four reception rooms and six bedrooms. Extensive outbuildings include a double garage and stabling.

Offers in the region of £67,000 are being sought through Jackson-Stops and Staff, of Northampton, and Walker Walton and Hanson, of Nottingham, for the property which extends in all to just under 2½ acres.

In a popular part of the country is Westerlea, a property on the edge of the village of West Marden, near Chichester, Sussex. Built of brick and tile with a slate roof, it is thought to date in part from the seventeenth century, but with later additions which merge well with the original design.

Accommodation includes two reception rooms, a combined kitchen and breakfast room and four bedrooms. A good point is a cellar of two rooms, one with outside access. Extensive outbuildings include loose boxes, a tack room and various stores.

The garden extends to about half an acre, but in addition across a road, there is a paddock of about 4½ acres. The price is £45,000 for the whole property, or £40,000 for the house and garden. The agents are King and Chasemore, of Petworth.

Gerald Ellis

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EUROPE

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A dedicated source of synchrotron radiation based on a 2GeV electron storage ring is under construction at Daresbury Laboratory and is scheduled to come into operation about the end of 1979. The design allows for up to twelve beam ports which could provide for up to about fifty experimental stations. A wide ranging scientific programme in physics, chemistry, biology and materials science is envisaged involving universities and other research institutes from all over the United Kingdom and Europe.

Applications are invited for the post of Programme Director of this new facility.

The Programme Director will be responsible to the Laboratory Director for the implementation of the scientific programme on the Synchrotron Radiation Source in accordance with the decisions of the Facility Committee which advises the Council's Science Board on the usage of the new Source and gives approval to experiment proposals. The work will cover the organisation and administration of the experimental programme and the provision of equipment and facilities required to support it in collaboration with the user groups. There is an associated programme of theoretical research, and close liaison with the Theory Group is essential.

The existing group of scientific and supporting staff for this activity will be expanded to cover a wider range of science and the experimental programme will also be supported by staff from other divisions of the Laboratory. The appointee will be expected to be an active collaborator in the research being undertaken on the facility.

The successful candidate will be a scientist with an established reputation in any area of research relevant to the use of synchrotron radiation, the administrative ability to co-ordinate a complex operation and the personality to secure the effective co-operation of the users and the staff of the Laboratory.

Because of the wide ranging scientific programme and the uncertainty of future trends in research, the appointment is for a limited period of three to five years. The Council would prefer to fill the post by a secondment from, or a joint appointment with, an academic institution but a fixed term appointment is not precluded.

The salary will be within the range of Deputy Chief Scientific Officer (£10,180-£11,190 p.a. + Phase II supplement of £208.80 p.a.).

Superannuation cover will be by arrangement with the successful candidate.

Applicants, of either sex, should write no later than 10th April, 1978 giving details of qualifications and experience to:
The Director

DARESBURY LABORATORY
Science Research Council
Daresbury, Warrington WA4 4AD

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY SECRETARY AND SOLICITOR'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Prosecuting Solicitor

£9,030-£9,813 plus £208 Supplement

Applications are invited for the post of Chief Prosecuting Solicitor on the retirement of the present holder. Applicants should be Solicitors with at least ten years' admitted experience, together with a thorough knowledge of criminal law and practice as well as proven experience in advocacy and the conduct of criminal cases.

The Chief Prosecuting Solicitor is a member of the staff of the County Secretary and Solicitor's Department for administrative purposes but is professionally independent in relation to his work of advising the Chief Constable on criminal law and associated civil law matters and undertaking the conduct of such cases.

He/she will be responsible for the Police Prosecutions Office which includes 15 Solicitors, 11 unadmitted legal staff, and clerical and typing support.

Further particulars and application form returnable by 3 April from the County Secretary and Solicitors, County Hall, Maidstone, Ref. 1/OS 1/293/T. Phone (0622) 671411 Ext. 3257/3305.

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Director of Technical Services

The Council of the London Borough of Ealing invites applications for this Principal Chief Officer post which will shortly become vacant on the retirement of Mr. H. D. Peake. Considerable administrative experience at senior level, coupled with proven professional ability in a relevant discipline will be basic requirements for the post which involves the coordination and administration of the following divisions each of which is headed by a Chief Officer—Architecture, Engineering, Parks and Amenities, Quantity Surveying, Town Planning and Works. The post carries with it membership of the Management Board of Officers and through this an obligation to contribute to the management of all sectors of the Council's business.

Salary scale is currently £11,835 rising to £12,915 p.a.

Further particulars of the post and of the Administration of the Borough may be obtained from Town Clerk and Chief Executive Officer, Town Hall, Ealing, W5 to whom applications should be sent by 6th April, together with the names and addresses of two referees.

Ealing
London Borough

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University of Bristol

Applications are invited for the post of

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within the Department of French tenable from 1st September, 1978. Preference may be given to specialists in Renaissance and/or Drama. Salary within the range £3,555-£5,425 on the Lecturer salary scale (under revision). Further particulars may be obtained from The Secretary, University of Bristol Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, to whom applications, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent by 15th April, 1978 (please quote reference EB).

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Applications are invited for a Lectureship in English, from candidates who have a special interest in English Literature of the 19th and 20th centuries.

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Further information may be obtained from the Registrar (Room 21-I, Whiteknights House). The University, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AH, to whom applications should be received not later than 29 April, 1978.

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The salary will be within Grade IV for University Administrative Officers and have a range of £8,105-£9,530 (under review) plus £450 London Allowance per annum, together with superannuation under the Universities Superannuation Scheme.

Further particulars of the post may be obtained from the Dean, The London Hospital Medical College, Turner Street, London, E1 2AD, to whom applications (in duplicate), giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent by 17th April, 1978.

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The way west

London's commuter zone ends just west of Salisbury and Devizes. Beyond that a train journey of more than 1½ hours is involved, which is too large a share of the working day, besides being increasingly expensive. In response to these facts of life, the price and availability of residential property tend to drop quite dramatically as one moves farther west. A house that would command around £30,000 in the Test valley of Hampshire would fetch only around £22,000 in, say, south-west Wiltshire or east Somerset. Far more properties also come on to the market in the western counties, and planning permission for new dwellings is far easier to obtain.

There are exceptions to these generalizations. The West Country, too, has its pockets of strong demand for houses, dependent on local industries. Big cities such as Bristol, Bath, Bournemouth, Plymouth and Exeter, for instance, all have their own commuter zones, which extend from the suburbs for up to 30 miles into the surrounding countryside. 30 miles is as far as most motorists want to travel to get to work and the strongest demand is for properties within 6 to 8 miles. The larger the town and the more diversified its industries, the more extensive its commuterdom.

Some of the smaller and medium-sized towns rely heavily on only one industry, the prospects of which tend to be reflected pretty accurately in the local property market. Yeovil, for instance, though it does have other industries, depends largely on Westlands, the helicopter firm, and a low order book and redundancies there quickly make their effects known in the town trade and hence in the demand for property.

Of great importance in local economies, too, are the Services. Personnel and civilian employees at air stations, army camps, research establishments and similar institutions have to be housed: and in many instances the government department concerned takes a lease on as much local property as it can get, for occupation by short-term residents in its employ.

By and large, then, couples approaching retirement and looking for a rural property at a reasonable price will do well to avoid the neighbourhood of factories, airfields and military camps. A study of maps, however, will reveal wide areas of countryside in the West far from major factories and barracks. Here cows compete, successfully, with motorists on country roads, sheep maintain their ancient numerical superiority over dogs, and crowing cocks at dawn render alarm clocks superfluous.

But even in these apparent Edens problems exist for the potential house-purchaser. Instead of the factory-worker or the pilot he finds himself competing with the holidaymaker.

The little farms of the western hills derive as much of their income from bed-and-breakfast and caravan sites as from milk and mutton. Owners of vacant properties prefer to let them at exaggerated weekly terms in summer rather than lease them to permanent tenants or sell them. There is no undiscovered kingdom of bargain property anywhere in the West.

What, though, of the big rural estates, which have spare houses formerly occupied by tenant-farmers or farm workers, situated in locations where to sell would be highly inconvenient for the management of the rest of the estate? Surely big estate owners hardly want to be bothered with the summer holiday trade? No, but a system of leasing has been devised which, not unnaturally, they find attractive.

A house property is let on a long lease, of, say 21 or 25 years, containing a modernization clause. For this the in-coming tenant pays several thousand pounds and so acquires, for the agreed term a property on which he proceeds to spend thousands more pounds on bathrooms, indoor toilets, central heating, double glazing and other amenities, while continuing to pay rent and rates.

At the end of the lease the modernized property reverts, of course, to the owner, who, one would imagine, has the best of the bargain. Nevertheless, the fact that the system seems to flourish demonstrates that there are clients willing to pay handsomely for a long lease on the type of property they covet.

Whatever they decide on, would-be purchasers may as well reconcile themselves to paying the going rate; but what do they get for their money? The property market is, of course, is as diverse in the West as elsewhere. You can acquire a modern chalet-type house with a pocket-handkerchief garden on a new estate, or a solid but unimaginative red-brick 1930s building, or something more ancient featuring thatch and mud. The West Country has, however, a bigger stock than most regions of attractive stone houses of from 150 to 400 years old. Especially in the stone country of Somerset, Avon, west Wiltshire and parts of Dorset and Devon, these can be found by the dozen in most villages, and some come up for sale from time to time.

Ralph Whitlock

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Tenders should be sent in two sealed envelopes, addressed to: Ministère l'Information et de la Culture, Direction de l'Administration Générale, 119 rue Didouche Mourad, Algiers, and should arrive by 15 June 1978.

Please note that letters not marked " APPEL D'OFFRES No. 414/E—NE PAS OUVRIR " will be opened and considered null and void.

The tender document is available against payment of a handling fee of two hundred (200) Dinars from : R.T.A., Direction des Services Techniques et de l'Equipement, 21 Boulevard des Martyrs, Algiers, Room No. 332 New Building.

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry of Information and Culture
Radiodiffusion Television Algerienne
Equipment Account

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Please note that letters not marked " APPEL D'OFFRES NO. 412/E—NE PAS OUVRIR " will be opened and considered null and void.

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Further information may be obtained from the Registrar (Room 213, Whiteknights House), The University, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 2AH, by whom applications should be received not later than 6 May, 1978.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

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Further details and application forms from The Staffing Officer, The Hatfield Polytechnic, PO Box 109, Hatfield, Herts AL10 9AB.
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DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY
University of Bristol

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THE TIMES

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Law Report March 16 1978 Queen's Bench Division

Third parties and dismissal for want of prosecution

Enoch v National Coal Board
Before Mr Justice Milmo
[Judgment delivered March 13]

The principles applicable to the dismissal of actions for want of prosecution, as set out by the House of Lords in *Birkett v James* ([1977] 3 WLR 38), were held to apply with equal force to the dismissal of third party proceedings for want of prosecution.

His Lordship dismissed an appeal by the third party, James Williams & Co (Neath 1957) Ltd, from the refusal by the Barnsley district registrar of their application to dismiss for want of prosecution proceedings brought against them by the defendant, the National Coal Board.

An application by the third party to dismiss under the court's inherent jurisdiction the claim by the plaintiff, Mr John Henry Aeron Enoch, against the board for want of prosecution was also dismissed.

Order 16, rule 4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court provides: "(1) If the third party enters an appearance, the defendant who issued the third party notice must, by summons to be served on all the other parties to the action, apply to the court for directions. (2) If no summons is served on the third party under paragraph (1), the third party may, not earlier than seven days after entering an appearance, by summons to be served on all the other parties to the action, apply to the court for directions or for an order to set aside the third party notice. . . . (4) On an application for directions under this rule the court may give the third party leave to defend the action . . . and generally make such orders and give such directions as appear to the court proper. . . ."

Mr Anton Lodge for Mr Enoch; Mr Stephen Duffield for the board: Mr Christopher Holland for the third party.

HIS LORDSHIP said that on August 6, 1970, Mr Enoch was working below ground in the board's colliery at Allerton Bywater, Yorkshire. He was employed by the third party, who were engaged under contract with the board in dismantling an overhead monorail conveyor system. An element of the system fell and injured him. He claimed damages against the board.

The writ was issued in August, 1972, but it was not served until September, 1973. Up to then Mr Enoch had not been out of time in anything.

After delivery of statement of claim (April 25, 1974) and defence (April, 1975), the board obtained leave to issue the third party notice, which was duly served on the third party in July, 1975, and to which the third party entered an appearance in August. The board claimed indemnity against the third party.

No party took any further step until April, 1977, when the third party issued a summons to dismiss the third party proceedings for want of prosecution—a move which stimulated a rush of activity.

In May the board issued a summons to dismiss Mr Enoch's action for want of prosecution. His advisers served on the board a notice of intention to proceed within one month, and the board served on the third party a similar notice. In June the board issued a summons for directions in the third party proceedings and Mr Enoch issued a summons for directions in the action.

While the word "must" was used in rule 4(1), no time was specified within which the defendant must comply with it. But the third party was provided with redress in case the defendant was dilatory because, in the event of the defendant failing to take out a third party summons for directions within seven days of the third party entering an appearance, the third party under sub-rule (2) could within seven days take out a summons himself, and under sub-rule (4) he was entitled to obtain orders for delivery of pleadings and other interlocutory matters in relation to the third party proceedings and, in his Lordship's judgment, could in proper cases obtain peremptory orders in relation to such matters.

Since no time was specified in the rules within which the defendant must take out the third party summons for directions, his failure to take it out could not be regarded as contumelious conduct, more particularly when the third party was given the means of rectifying the omission within a very short time.

On July 12, 1977, all four summonses were listed for hearing before the registrar. He dismissed the third party's summons applying for the dismissal of the third party proceedings. At the request of the board he adjourned sine die its summons to dismiss Mr Enoch's action, and since counsel for the third party stated that his clients were going to appeal against the registrar's decision on their summons, the two summonses for directions were adjourned pending the hearing of the appeal.

In January, 1978, the third party gave notice of an application to the judge in chambers to dismiss for want of prosecution Mr Enoch's action against the board. The application was heard by his Lordship at the same time as the appeal in the third party proceedings.

Dealing first with the appeal, his Lordship said that the principles applicable to the dismissal of actions for want of prosecution were to be found in the speeches of their Lordships in *Birkett v James*. He failed to see why those principles should not apply with equal force to applications made for the dismissal of third party proceedings for want of prosecution.

In *Birkett v James* it was pointed out that a plaintiff whose action was dismissed for want of prosecution before the limitation period barring his cause of action had expired was, save in an exceptional case, entitled to issue a fresh writ for the same cause of action. It was held that, accordingly, the power to dismiss an action for want of prosecution, other than in a case of contumelious conduct on the plaintiff's part, should not normally be exercised within the currency of the limitation period, when it could only aggravate the prejudice to the defendant from delay and add to costs.

The limitation period applicable to the board's claim for contribution from the third party was two years from the date of judgment for Mr Enoch in his action against the board (section 4 (1) and (2) of the Limitation Act, 1963). It followed that the board's claim against the third party was not statute barred; indeed time had not yet started to run.

The board had not been guilty of contumelious conduct or of failing to comply with any peremptory order in the proceedings. Accordingly, if the court acceded to the third party's application, no useful purpose would be served since the board could commence fresh proceedings against them.

No fresh third party proceeding could be taken at that stage without leave, but it was unlikely that the board would fail to obtain such leave. In any event the board could issue a writ against the third party claiming contribution and it could delay until two years after judgment had gone against it in Mr Enoch's action. There would have to be a retrial of most, if not all, of the issues which had arisen in the action and that would hardly be in the interests of anyone, except possibly the lawyers. His Lordship understood that that was the ground on which the registrar, basing himself on *Birkett v James*, dismissed the third party's application to dismiss the third party proceedings for want of prosecution. In his Lordship's judgment the registrar's decision was correct and the appeal would be dismissed.

The House of Lords in *Birkett v James* held "that the power of the court to dismiss an action for want of prosecution should be exercised only where the plaintiff's default had been intentional and contumelious or where there had been inordinate or inexcusable delay on his part or his lawyers' part giving rise to a substantial risk that a fair trial would not be possible or to serious prejudice to the defendant."

There was no contumelious default either by the board in the third party proceedings or by Mr Enoch's advisers in the conduct of the action. But the board was guilty of inordinate delay in prosecuting the third party proceedings, and, in the absence of any explanation, the delay was inexcusable. So was Mr Enoch's delay in prosecuting his action against the board.

However, in an application to dismiss for want of prosecution, mere inordinate or inexcusable delay was not enough; it must be shown that the delay had given rise to a substantial risk that a fair trial would not be possible or to serious prejudice resulting to the other side. Moreover, the prejudice relied on must be additional to any prejudice flowing from the delay in commencing the proceedings, provided always that the proceedings had been commenced within the permitted limits.

The earliest period at which the board could be said to have been guilty of delay was when it took nearly a year after the delivery of the statement of claim to deliver its defence. Technically, the defence should have been delivered within 14 days, but it would have been reasonable to allow a more extended period, say a month. That gave the date May 25, 1974. Had the delay since that date given rise to a serious risk that a fair trial of the third party proceedings would not be possible?

In all the circumstances, including the absence of evidence of prejudice to the third party, his Lordship had concluded that the present case was not one in which he should dismiss the third party proceedings for want of prosecution and accordingly the appeal failed.

As to the application to dismiss, under the inherent jurisdiction of the court, Mr Enoch's claim against the board, no authority had been cited which supported the application. There was no known principle of law or practice upon which such a step could be justified.

An order was often made under *Order 16, rule 4 (4) for the third* party to be at liberty to appear at the trial of the action and take such part in it as might be just. At the trial under such an order he might oppose the plaintiff's claim as far as he was affected by it and for that purpose he might put in evidence. Nowhere did one find a word to suggest that the third party could intervene directly in the main action by way of interlocutory application.

In the present case it did not by any means follow that, if the board was found liable to Mr Enoch, the third party would necessarily be found liable whether for a full indemnity or contribution to the board. Nor did it follow that because the third party had a good defence against the board, the board must have an equally good defence against Mr Enoch.

There was no principle of law or justice upon which the third party should be allowed to prevent Mr Enoch having the question of the board's liability to him determined on its merits by the court. Equally, there was no reason why the third party should be allowed to intervene to prevent Mr Enoch having determined on its merits the issue as between himself and the board as to whether one or more of the third party's employees had been negligent and, if so, whether the board was vicariously liable to Mr Enoch for such negligence.

For those reasons it would be an injustice to Mr Enoch if the third party were at liberty to have Mr Enoch's claim against the board dismissed irrespective of whether the claim could succeed without the third party becoming involved. Accordingly, the third party's summons to dismiss Mr Enoch's action against the board for want of prosecution would be dismissed.

The third party was ordered to pay the costs of the board and Mr Enoch. Leave to appeal was granted.

Solicitors: White & Leonard for Raley & Pratt, Barnsley: Mr C. T. Peach, Doncaster; Willey, Hargrave & Co, Leeds.

Chancery Division

No jurisdiction to give approval to insurance scheme

In re Capital Annuities Ltd
Before Mr Justice Slade
[Judgment delivered March 14]

His Lordship held that he had no jurisdiction, on the facts, to approve a scheme for the reduction, in accordance with section 50 of the Insurance Companies Act, 1974, of the liabilities and benefits of policies of insurance issued by Capital Annuities Ltd, and accordingly dismissed the summons of the Policyholders Protection Board which sought such reduction. The petition to wind up the company was adjourned to enable the board to consider possible amendments to the scheme.

Mr David Oliver for the board; Mr William Stubbs for the company; Mr David Richards for the Official Receiver, the company's provisional liquidator; Mr John Chadwick for the Department of Trade, as amicus curiae.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Capital Annuities Ltd, which was incorporated in 1968, had a paid-up capital of £200,000. Its business was ordinary long-term insurance business, specializing solely in annuity contracts. On April 30, 1976, it presented its own petition for winding up, the directors taking the view that it would be unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 223 (d) of the Companies Act, 1948.

As a result of the presentation of the petition the Policyholders Protection Board were faced with the problem of how best to perform their duties under the Policyholders Protection Act, 1975. In the result they prepared a scheme under section 16 of the Act in the form of a draft agreement between the board, the company and the Commercial Union Assurance Co Ltd for the immediate discharge of all known liabilities other than in respect of policies, and for the company to operate thereafter as a closed fund with a view to payment in full of policyholders' benefits, as reduced by the orders sought by the summons before the court, pursuant to section 50 of the Insurance Companies Act.

Paragraph (i) of the order sought by the board was for the reduction of the liabilities and benefits under the relevant long-term policies which had not fallen due to be paid before April 30, 1976. Paragraph (ii) sought further reduction of all liabilities and benefits to the extent specified in section 17 (2) (a) of the Policyholders Protection Act, namely to 90 per cent of what would otherwise have been payable. Paragraph (iii) sought the dismissal of the winding-up petition.

The Department of Trade had instructed Mr Chadwick to present arguments against the board's scheme, not because it was considered undesirable, but so that the court should have the views of an amicus curiae.

It was a condition precedent to the exercise of the court's jurisdiction under section 50 of the Insurance Companies Act that the company should have been "proved to be unable to pay its debts". Having examined the evidence, which included the affidavit sworn in support of the petition, a statement of affairs as at April 30, 1976, and an accountant's report, his Lordship concluded that it had not been proved that the company's present and contingent liabilities exceeded the present value of its assets, or that given time to realize those assets the company could not discharge those liabilities as and when they fell due, but that the company had insufficient cash to discharge, immediately, its present accrued liabilities.

His Lordship reviewed the history of legislation relating to companies from 1862 onwards, and concluded that the words "unable to pay its debts" in section 50 bore the same meaning as in sections 222 and 223 of the Companies Act, 1948. He could not accept that mere evidence that the company had insufficient liquid assets to pay all its presently owing debts, whether or not payment had been demanded, proved its inability to pay its debts, and while no doubt the company and the board bona fide believed that the company was commercially insolvent the court must decline to make the orders sought in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of the summons.

The summons raised further important points of principle. The words of section 50 were not expressed as comprising debts or liabilities: "the amount of the contracts of the company" meant insurance contracts and no others, and "amount" meant "the sum or sums payable under the contracts".

Looking at section 50 in isolation, his Lordship would have thought it inappropriate to include within its scope sums which had ripened into present debts: but in his Lordship's view *In re Great Britain Mutual Life Assurance Society* ((1880) 16 ChD 246 and (1882) 20 ChD 351), established that "the amount of the contracts of the company" in section 22 of the Life Assurance Companies Act, 1870, and likewise in section 50 meant the sums prospectively payable under the company's current insurance contracts; that there was nevertheless jurisdiction to reduce all sums prospectively payable at the date of presentation of the petition, notwithstanding that such sums had ripened into present payable debts since such date; that the court would generally select the date of presentation of the petition as the proper date for ascertaining the contracts to be reduced, though it had a discretion to select a later date; and that the court had no jurisdiction to reduce debts under insurance contracts which were presently payable at the date of the petition. That decision bound the court and was supported by, inter alia, the decision of Mr Justice Oliver in *In re Fidelity Life Assurance Ltd* (unreported, July 23, 1976).

While any scheme of reduction ought to reflect the position in a winding up, where liabilities fell to be discharged pari passu, section 50 had no jurisdictional requirement that all contracts should be reduced precisely equally or even on a principle of "broad equality", that being too imprecise a yardstick by which to determine the court's jurisdiction. Considerations of broad equality were relevant in the manner in which the court should exercise its discretion. The fact, therefore, that the present scheme would not provide strict equality would not have been a bar to its approval by the court.

The only remaining question was whether the court had jurisdiction to effect the desired reduction without giving policyholders a chance to object. Section 50 was not accompanied by any direction in the Act for meetings of policyholders to be called. In the *Fidelity Life* case, in an unreported judgment, his Lordship had himself made an order under section 50 without directing any meetings of policyholders. That was, however, a very special case in that the court was satisfied that there were no reasonable grounds of objection open to policyholders affected.

In his Lordship's view, while the court had jurisdiction in the present case to order a reduction without meetings, advertisements or communication with policyholders, it would be inappropriate to do so.

In the result his Lordship dismissed the board's summons, but adjourned the petition to enable the board to consider possible amendments to the scheme.

Solicitors: Herbert Smith & Co; Allen & Overy; Herbert Smith & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Foreign Report

Tilting the Eastern power balance

The likely signing of a peace treaty between Japan and China represents an important tilt in the balance of forces in north-east Asia. Despite some final foot-dragging by the Japanese over the inclusion of an "anti-hegemony clause" aimed at the Soviet Union, it is widely expected that the Chinese will have their way over this.

The clause and the Chinese insistence that it should not be watered down to placate the Russians, has been seen by many people in the West as a trivial issue which ought not to hold up the signing of an important treaty. But all the three parties concerned consider it an important issue, because they know it will be taken seriously by all of them. The Russians have opposed the clause because they know it is aimed at them; the Chinese have this week made it plain beyond doubt that it is aimed at the Russians, and the Japanese are painfully aware that they must choose between annoying the Chinese and annoying the Russians.

The Russians have been their own worst enemies in the attempt to keep Japan locked into the idea of huge investments in Eastern Siberia, rather than a long-term economic relationship with China, of the large proportions outlined in the recent trade agreement signed in Peking.

Having for a whole decade tried to induce the Japanese to invest more than they wanted, farther west than they wanted, for a smaller return than they wanted, they have merely succeeded in making the Japanese feel their intelligence has been insulted. On top of that, the Soviet Union has shown an offensive intransigence, both over the northern islands issue and over the fisheries dispute with Japan.

China is not without its own small territorial dispute with Japan, but it has been careful not to inflame this or enter into confrontations over the fisheries which are so vital to Japan, when it is trying to secure Japan's signature on the treaty.

In addition, the Chinese have been able to play on Japan's historic feeling of cultural reverence for China, guilt about wartime atrocities, and the need for long-term sources of supply for Japanese industries. The close cultural affinity between the two countries, and their ability to understand each other's written languages with relatively little extra study, have also contributed to the growing relationship which is fuelled by a never-ending exchange of delegations and visiting groups.

Why does Moscow oppose it?

To the Russians, the Japanese—though now of little military consequence—are still a formidable power, an economic challenge and an ideological adversary. Their attitudes to their eastern neighbour are curiously ambivalent, indeed inscrutable. At one moment they court the Japanese, eager to involve them in the development of Siberia; at another the Soviet press pours on Japan the venom generally reserved for the most hardline Nato countries.

Since the Second World War one issue has bedevilled all relations between Moscow and Tokyo: the ownership of the Southern Kurile Islands, claimed by Japan and occupied by the Russians in 1945 (after the Japanese surrender).

The Russians refuse even to consider any change in the islands' status; the Japanese refuse to read any proposed friendship treaty until the issue is settled. Bilateral negotiations have been like a dialogue of the deaf.

The status of the Southern Kuriles was further complicated last year by the Soviet-Japanese fishing dispute. In December, 1976, the Soviet Union declared a 200 mile fishing zone, which took effect last March. This challenged Japan in two ways; it threatened to limit the operations of Japanese fishermen in what would become Soviet waters; and it threatened to alter the status of the disputed island.

Japan then declared its own 200 mile limit, and after three rounds of negotiations a pragmatic compromise was reached which seems to give the edge to the Russians: the agreement which runs till the end of this year severely limits the Japanese catches and makes specific reference to the 1977 Soviet decision to include the Southern Kuriles in the Soviet fishing zone.

The Russians do want a peace treaty with Japan—on their own terms. The one they would like to sign would bring four main benefits: confirm the territorial status quo, prevent the Japanese becoming too friendly with China, encourage Japanese investment in Siberia, and undermine the need for the Japanese-American security treaty.

The Japanese economy is of great importance to Russia. Japan is now its third largest non-communist trading partner: turnover in 1976 was over 2,000m roubles (about £1,500m) with the balance two-to-one in Japan's favour. The Russians need Japanese money and know-how to exploit the enormous natural resources of the Soviet far-east, and as an inducement can offer Japan Siberian oil, which Japan needs.

But the Japanese Government, for political reasons, has resisted all blandishments to do more than what is in Japan's immediate self-interest. It believes Japanese companies already have enough Soviet projects on their hands.

An article in the current issue of *International Affairs*, an authoritative Soviet monthly, says the development of relations between China and Japan "is of course their own affair. But to judge by the items that are to be included in the agreement, it oversteps the framework of bilateral relations". The antihegemony clause which China wants to include was spearheaded against the Soviet Union, the journal said, and by signing it Japan would willy-nilly be involved in Peking's foreign policy.

Ideological opposition to Japanese capitalism accounts for some of the Soviet distrust of their neighbour, though the close political and military ties with the United States (harshly brought home to the Russians when the Americans were allowed to dismantle the plane of the defecting pilot two years ago) worry Moscow far more.

Nevertheless it is on the islands question that Soviet attempts to improve the generally poor relations with Japan founder. Why?

The Russians believe they can get what they need from Japan without making territorial concessions; they have important security reasons for not doing so; and they are afraid that any boundary alterations would encourage the Chinese to make further claims of their own.

The Russians have a general inclination not to relinquish conquered territory. The Kuriles provide a natural geographic division between the Sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean, serving as a protective shield for the Soviet far-east and as an outpost that can support a Soviet military presence in the Pacific.

The Russians have bases that house Tupolev 16 and Tupolev 95 bombers, as well as MiG 21 and MiG 23 fighters. They also have extensive radar installations for monitoring ships in the area. If the islands were Japanese, Soviet ship movements could themselves be more easily monitored.

Finally the Southern Kuriles are in good fishing waters, giving the Russians an economic incentive for keeping control of the islands.

Michael Binyon

Why does Japan want it?

Just over three decades ago, shortly after Japan surrendered to the allied powers, Stalin sent a confidential letter to President Truman. The telegram contained the Soviet Union's demands for the right to occupy regions of Japan's major northern island of Hokkaido and the Kuriles.

Stalin was not to know at the time that his telegram was about to touch off an historical dispute which would help cement a close relationship between Japan, now an economic power, and China, the Soviet Union's bitter foe three decades later.

But President Truman's approval was a mere formality. Shortly before the end of the war, Russian troops were already in place on the Kuriles and within two weeks of the Japanese surrender Soviet forces had moved south to occupy four new islands, Etorofu, Kunashiri, Habomai and Shikotan.

For 30 years Japan has claimed sovereignty over the four islands and for 30 years the Soviet Union has turned a deaf ear on Japan's claims.

Why then, after five years of procrastination, have Japan's policy planners suddenly jumped off the fence in a blatant attempt to woo Peking? Observers close to the Government believe that many factors prompted the move.

In the first place, in terms of their historical background and past cultural links, the majority of Japanese believe they have more in common with the Chinese. A traditional mistrust of the Soviet Union has also swayed national sentiments in favour of Peking. However officials claim that two overriding factors have retarded a formal Sino-Japanese treaty so far. First, objections of the strong pro-Taiwan lobby within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and second, a strong belief that the United States might object to a formal pact between Peking and Tokyo. But during the past 18 months Mr Fukuda has managed to dissipate many of the objections within his party with the promise that a Sino-Japan peace treaty will provide the debilitated Liberal Democrats with some kudos at the next election. At the same time, the second fear was removed late in December last year when the Minister for External Economic Affairs, Mr Nobuhiko Ushiba, apparently broached the subject of the proposed Sino-Japanese treaty with President Carter's administration.

Mr Ushiba was apparently informed that the US does not want to interfere in a bilateral pact between Japan and China.

For public record, Japan's politicians and bureaucrats claim that Tokyo does not plan to establish a special relationship with Peking at Moscow's expense.

Setting the trend for the future, China and Japan signed a £10 billion long term trade pact last month. In quick and short succession, the Japanese foreign office announced last week that the political talks over a proposed Sino-Japanese peace treaty have resumed in Peking.

Much to the horror of Soviet diplomats in Tokyo all the evidence would now indicate that Japan is not only willing to enter into a peace treaty with China, but it would also seem as though Japan is now prepared to endorse a document containing the controversial "anti-hegemony clause".

"The writing is on the wall", one western diplomat points out. "Members of the Japanese foreign office are on the cocktail trail assuring everyone, and particularly the Russians, that the anti-hegemony clause is not directed at any single nation. Japan has dropped its policy of maintaining an equi-distance between Peking and Moscow. They are now talking about separate bilateral relations", he added.

In short, Russian diplomats claim that while Japan is taking a strong stand over its territorial dispute with the Soviet Union, it is apparently prepared to enter into a pact with Peking without settling a Sino-Japanese dispute over Senkaku Island off Taiwan. (The island held by Japan was claimed both by Formosa and Peking recently after potential oil reserves were discovered in the area.)

"The two issues are separate. We possess Senkaku Island. Japan's position is that there are no outstanding post-war issues with China. America returned Senkaku in 1972 together with Okinawa Island," an official explained.

"We can enter into a peace treaty with the Soviet Union and solve all our differences if the four islands are returned. The Soviet Union was awarded the Kurile chain under the surrender agreements of the last war but the four islands in question were never considered to be part of the Kurile chain", the Japanese foreign ministry explains.

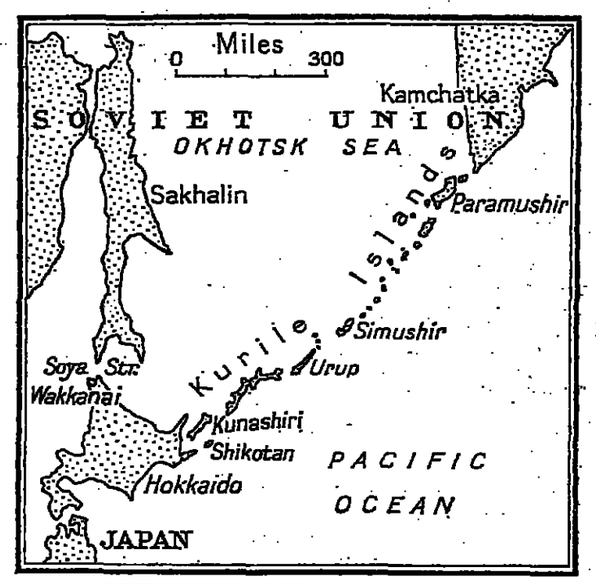
Japanese officials offer two reasons for this obdurate stand over four islands which together cover 3,122 sq miles. First, the islands are being used as intelligence outposts to monitor American military activity in Japan. And second, many Japanese are convinced that the Soviet Union cannot agree to cede the islands without stirring up discontent within its minority provinces.

One of Stalin's legacies to the Soviet Union, four small islands, has without doubt pushed Tokyo closer to Peking within the past four weeks.

But, then 30 years ago not even Stalin could guess that a communist China would emerge as the Soviet Union's major enemy.

And then, even two decades ago who could have seen Japan establish itself as a major economic power?

Peter Hazelhurst



Food Report

The lure of the plastic pot

What is the difference between a supermarket fruit dessert in a plastic pot and a carton of soured cream? Mr Nigel Dolton, agency account manager in charge of advertising for Express Dairy Foods, has the answer. He considers the dessert "possibly a little down market" while soured cream is "a very, very sophisticated product: not the sort of thing you would expect to see in a semi-detached in Wigan".

Such are the conclusions, derived from detailed consumer reseach, on which the marketing decisions of food companies are based. Consumption of things sold in small plastic pots, known collectively as short-life dairy products, is rising while general grocery sales have fallen.

The products are cream, cottage cheese, yoghurt, desserts and salads made with heavily flavoured dressings. Their quality is high in view of their low price and nearly all of them are sold in supermarkets. Almost £1m a week is spent on yoghurt alone.

Express dominates the trade, but is worried because many shoppers do not see any difference between its plastic pots and those of rivals. It intends to do something about it, or, to lapse into the terminology used by Express men, to make "a strategic move into a more corporate entity".

They will spend £250,000 on magazine advertising this year to establish in the minds of shoppers "an overall corporate image which is not modern, but traditional without being old-fashioned". If that does not sound the clearest of intentions, company research has shown that shoppers are confused already about the contents of supermarket chilled cabinets.

They do not see much difference between brands except that sold by Marks & Spencer. Many who were interviewed on behalf of Express Dairy Foods were convinced that Marks & Spencer products were better than the rest, not realizing that some are supplied by Express and are the same as those sold under its own brands.

The new advertising campaign will be aimed at persuading shoppers of the freshness and lack of processing in short-life foods. "Target audience, basically women aged between 20 and 45", said Mr Alan Sealy, marketing executive. They use the term "women" rather than the customary "housewives" because many shoppers buy the products to eat alone rather than with their families.

"There will be nothing there that is not true", Mr Dolton insisted. "But we are not saying that nobody else could make the statements in our ads if they wanted to".

Food companies are often criticized for spending large amounts of promotional money and marketing expertise on suggesting to shoppers that mass-produced supermarket foods are much less uniform than they really are.

Companies are often blamed for pushing identical products into overcrowded markets instead of inventing new ones. But consumers are culprits as well for insisting on cheapness above all else. They will happily pay for variety in furnishings, clothes and electrical goods, but not in food.

The contents of, say, a 4lb pot of coleslaw at 23p may lend themselves to criticism, but those who complain often fail to recognize the constraints of cost which are forced on companies. One thing that is certain about a 23p pot is that it will never contain more than 23p's worth of coleslaw.

Hugh Clayton

CINEMAS

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 3232. Seats bookable in advance. Mon.-Fri. and all perfs. (except 1st night) Sats. WARNING SHOT (A). 1.50 (last perf. Sats.), 4.10, 6.30, 8.50.
GATE CINEMA, Notting Hill Gate. 727 3141. FASSBINDER'S "EFFI BRIEST". 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.40. WHO FELL TO EARTH (X). 11.15. LOOK NOW (X). 11.15.
GATE TWO CINEMA, Bayswater Rd. (opposite Queensway). 727 4043. Russell Square Tube. ERASERHEAD (X). Midnight. MAN'S JUBILEE (A). 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00.
HAROLD AND MAUDE (AA). 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00.
LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (437 6747). OLIVER (A). GEORGE AND MARY. TOMORROW NEVER COMES. Sep. perfs. Mon.-Fri. 5.10, 8.10. Sats. 3.40, 7.40. Sun. 4.30, 8.10 p.m. Sat. & Sun. cinema 10a.m.
ODEON, HAYMARKET (930 2738). James Fenton, Vanessa Redgrave in JULIA (A). Sep. progs. Mon.-Fri. 5.45, 8.45. Sats. 1.30, 4.15, 7.45. Sun. 4.30, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45 p.m. All seats bkble. Fest. 24hr. bkg. 839 1527.
ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111). CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (A). Sep. Progs. Mon.-Fri. 1.05, 4.15, 7.45. Sats. 10.00, 1.05, 4.15, 7.45. Sun. 4.30, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 p.m. All seats bkble except 10.00 a.m. Sat.
ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011). STAR WARS (U). Daily 1.30, 4.50, 8.10. Sun. 4.30, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 12.00 midnight. Sep. progs. Mon.-Fri. except 1.30 perf.
ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE (836 1801). Doors open 10.00. THE WORLD OF DISNEY MOVIES (U). For info. 240 6077. Sep. progs. Mon.-Fri. 1.30, 5.45, 8.30. Special show 9.45 a.m.
PARIS PULLMAN, Sth. Ken. (370 1801). Tanner's JONAH WHO WILL BE 25 IN THE YEAR 2000 (X). 2.15, 6.5, 8.50.
PHOENIX, E. Finchley. Tanner's JONAH WHO WILL BE 25 IN THE YEAR 2000 (X). 4.5, 6.5, 8.20. Mats. Sat. & Sun. 2.0.
PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, off Circus. 437 1234. Cinema 1 (Plaza 1 & 2 only) for perf. Mon.-Fri. and all Sats. & Sun. (except 1st night) at the box office (11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat.) or by post.
1. LOOKING FOR MR. GOODBAR (X). Progs. Daily 2.50, 5.40, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.0 p.m.
2. SKATEBOARD (A). Progs. Daily 2.05, 4.10, 6.20, 8.30.
3. THE CHOIRBOYS (X) (U). Progs. Daily 1.50 (not Suns.), 4.40, 7.35. Late show Sat. 11.30 p.m.
4. THE DUELLISTS (A). Progs. Daily 2.00 (not Suns.), 4.10, 6.20, 8.30.
PRINCE CHARLES, Lcstr. Sq. 437 8181. SWEPT AWAY (X). Sep. Progs. Mon.-Thurs. Daily (Inc. Sun.) 2.45, 5.45, 8.45. Fri. & Sat. 11.30. Lic'd Bar.
SCENE 2, Lcstr. Sq. 839 4470. THE PINK STRIKES AGAIN (U). 1.50, 5.35, 9.15. Fri. & Sat. 11.45. THE PINK PANTHER (U). Thurs., 3.25, 7.30. Fri. & Sat. 5.30, 10.30.
THE SCREEN ON THE HILL, Belsize Park Tube. 435 3636. Wisconsin. THE INNOCENT (X). Sep. progs. 3.05, 4.25, 6.45, 9.0. Seats bookable on same day by telephone booking. LAST 3 WEEKS. CONCERT FOR BANGLADESH. LATE SHOW TONIGHT AT 12 midnight. Brian De Palma's PHANTOM OF THE PARADISE. Starring Georgie Harrison's.

EXHIBITIONS

DAILY MAIL IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA. Open 1st April 10 to 17th April. Adults £1. Children Reduced prices after 6 p.m. 75p. Children 60p.
48TH CHELSEA ANTIQUE FAIR, Chelsea Old Town Hall. Daily 11 a.m.-7.30 p.m. Sunday 1 until March 19th. £1.00 inc. VAT and catalogue.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. 01-629 6176. Thurs. Paintings of BATTLES OF BRITAIN. Until 28 April. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Thurs. until 7.
ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 Dering St., W.1. 01-629 0741. LUCIAN FREUD. Recent Paintings. Mon.-Fri. 10-6. Sats. 10-1.
BELGRAVE GALLERY, 17 Motcomb St., S.W.1. 01-235 0066. Jewish Artists of Great Britain 1945-1976. Mon.-Fri. 10-5. Sats. 10-1.
BLOND FINE ART, 33 Glebe Place, S.W.3. 01-352 1236. Works by and JOHN NASH until 1st April. Mon.-Fri. 10-5. Sat. 10-1.
BRITISH MUSEUM, Bloomsbury, W.C.1. 01-636 1555. RAJASTHAN. Until 14 May. Mon.-Sat. 10-5. Sun. 2.30-6. Admission 25p. Closed Fridays. Adm. free.
FINE ART SOCIETY, 148 New Bond St., W.1. 01-629 5116. LEONARD ROSOMAN.
FISCHER FINE ART, 30 Bury Street, St. James's, S.W.1. 01-839 3612. BOURGEOIS PARADES — Paintings, Drawings and Prints 1860-1972. Until 15th April. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats. 10-12.30.
GERALD NORMAN GALLERY, 8 Dukes Rd., W.C.1. 01-387 2995. SPRING EXHIBITION. 18th and 19th CENTURY WATERCOLOURS AND DRAWINGS. Until March 31st. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30. Sat. 10-1.
HAYWARD GALLERY, South Bank, S.E.1. (Arts Council). SURREALISM REVISITED. 30th March, Mon., 7-9. Thurs. 10-9. Fri. & Sat., 10-6. Sun., 1-6. £1 except Mon., 1-5, 75p. 6-8 25p. Closed Tues. Last day Mon., March 27.
LEFEVRE GALLERY, 30 Bury St., S.W.1. Important 19th and 20th CENTURY PAINTINGS. Weekly Exhibitions. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 10-1. Tel. 01-493 1572.
MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W.1. LYNN CHADWICK. Recent Sculpture. 8th Feb.-10th March. Mon.-Fri., 10-5.30. Sat. 10-1.
MUSEUM OF MANKIND, 6 Burlington Gdns., W.1. The world collections from the Museum of Mankind of five continents. Free (except Mondays). Weekdays 10-5.30. Sun. 2.30-6. Adm. free. (Closed Friday.)
NATIONAL BOOK LEAGUE, 7 Albemarle St., W.1. 01-629 8251. ENGLISH WATERCOLOURS selected by MICHAEL SPEED. Until 31st March, Mon.-Fri. 10-5.
NEW GRAFTON GALLERY, 44 Bond St., W.1. 499 1899. REYNOLDS STONE—watercolours.
PARKIN GALLERY, 11 New Bond St., W.1. 493 1535/4264. Works 1869-1956. A Camden Town Group Exhibition. Until 7th April.
R.W.S. GALLERIES, 26 Conduit Street, London, W.1. CONTEMPORARY PRINTS. Royal Society of Painters, Etchers and Engravers. Mon.-Fri. 10-5, Sats. 10-12.30. Closed Easter.
REDFERN GALLERY, 20 Cork Street, W.1. DRAPER Sculptures and Reliefs. 28th February-25th March. 22a Cork Street, London, W.1. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats. 10-12.30.
ROYAL ACADEMY, Piccadilly, W.1. 1. ROWLANDSON DRAWINGS. Selection of Mr and Mrs Paul Mellon's collection. Until 21 May. Adm. 50p. Mon.-Sat. 10-6 inc. Suns.
2. LIGHT FANTASTIC. Exhibition of holography. Until 27 March. Adm. £1.
3. GUSTAVE COURBET, 1819-77. (Arts Council Exhibition). Until 26th March. Adm. £1 (Students and OAPs half price).
4. CITYSCAPES 1918-39. Urban Life in American, German and Italian Art. (Arts Council Exhibition). Until 19th March. Adm. 75p. Free.
5. ROBERT MOTHERWELL. Exhibition of Graphics. Open until 19 March. Adm. 50p. Half price to all exhibitions for students and pensioners & until 1.0 p.m. daily. All exhibitions open Mon.-Sat. 10-6 (Inc. Suns) except Mons 10-8. Closed Tues. For pre-booked visits only: Mon & Thurs till 8 p.m.
SERPENTINE GALLERY, Kensington Gdns., W.2. (Arts Council). SPRING SHOW (1): sculpture, painting. Until 19 March. 10-6. Adm. free.
SPINK, 5, 6 & 7 King Street, St. James's, S.W.1. 930 7888. Until March 23rd. THOMAS ROWLANDSON (1756-1827). OF DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS. Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Co. week. 9.30-12.30. Closed Sats.
TATE GALLERY, Millbank, S.W.1. 821 1313. WILLIAM BLAKE, 1757-1827. 800 Works. Weekdays 10-6. Sundays 2-6. Coffee shop open Mon.-Sat. 10-5.30, Suns. 2-6. Lectures and Events. 01-821 1313 for details.
THE IVEAGH BEQUEST, Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, N.W.3. 348 1286. Works of Art. Thirtle, 1777-1850. Paintings. Daily 10-6. Closed Good Friday. Admission free.
VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, Sth. Ken. THE POOLE REVOLUTION. Until 9 April. Adm. free. Weekdays 10-5. Sun. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fri. 10 April.

Arts in Ontario Today
"We Are One of the Others"
Canada House Gallery, Trafalgar Square
15 March-16 April

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA AND BALLET

CARDIFF, C.C. 3931 (0222 31931). THE ROYAL BALLET. Tonight 7.30 pm. Tomorrow 7.30 pm. Mat. Sunday (Final) 7.30 pm. Small number of seats for all perfs. Applications for all perfs. from 10 am on day of perf. Access and Barclaycard bookings 01-856 3161.

SIR NATIONAL OPERA. Thurs. next 7.30. Don Giovanni. Mon. next 6.00. Tues. 7.30 Gala Performance. Tosca. Some balcony seats always available on day of performance.

WELSH THEATRE, Rosebery St. 037 1073. Last perfs. BALLET RAMBERT. Tonight 7.30. Cruel Garden. Tomorrow 7.30 Gala Performance in aid of Arts Council. PILOBOLUS dance.

CONCERTS

ELIZABETH HALL. Tonight 7.30. JOHN WILLIAMS guitar-ist will play New Chamber Concerto by Arnold Cooke. Conductor: Elgar Concerto: Bach: Concerto in A for oboe.

ROOM. Tonight 7.30. PILKINGTON JONES Works by Brahms, Schubert.

ROYAL HALL. Tonight 7.45. Lewis Thomas violin. Mozart Symp. No. 29. Rachmaninov: Concerto 2: Borodin: Symphony No. 2. All seats £1.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL. Tonight (Sold Out) and Tomorrow 7.30 LUCIANO GACCIONE LINHARES. Works by Beethoven, Paganini, Brahms, Villa-Lobos, Manuel de Falla.

THEATRES

ADELPHI THEATRE. 01-836 7611. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30. TODAY. One Perf. at 7.30. IRENE THE BEST MUSICAL. Evenings 8.0. Mats. Thurs. and 10/4. IRENE PRINCE PHILIP'S BEST NIGHT OUT — SEEN BY NEARLY ONE HAPPY THEATREGOER. HARD BOOKING 836 7611.

ALDWYCH THEATRE. 836 6404. Credit card bkgs. 836 1779. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. Last mat. this season Sat. 25th. THE THOUSAND TIMES WELCOME MUSICAL. IS LIONEL BART'S US. MUSICAL. Fin. Times. OLIVER! THE SCORE OF THE SCORES. ALBERT FINNEY TO BE SEEN AT AGAIN. BOOK NOW IN OFFICE FOR SPECIAL PARTY RATES.

ALMEIDA, 359 6101. Intro. 359 0337. SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Until 1 April but Postal now open for new London Shakespeare's HENRY V. Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Production directed by Ron Daniels. Box Office open 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Special Booking from 10 March's new HARLEQUIN. The Donmar Theatre opens its doors once again. Book now in person, by Telephone (01-836 6808).

APOLLO VICTORIA. 01-834 1171. Evgs. 8.00. Sat. 5.00 & 8.30. Tues. 5.00. JENTIN CRISP "... is without doubt the most extraordinary entertainment in Lvg. News. Ends March 25th. Tickets £2.50 to £4.50. Mons. C.C. 01-836 1171. Opens Tues. 28th March 1st at 7 p.m. Lvgs. 8 p.m. Mat. Sat. 5.0. A Rock Musical GOOD STONES ROLL

APOLLO, Shaftesbury Ave. 437 2663. Evgs. at 8.0. Mats. Tues. 2.30. Sat. 5.0 & 8.0 RONALD SINDEN in Ray Cooney's Not Now, Darling. "SUPERB." D. Mail. "SUPERB." N.O.W.

ARTS THEATRE. 836 2132. ANTHONY PERKINS AND THE EYES AND THINK OF ENGLAND "... FUNNY." The Times. "... SLY FUNNY." The Times. "... S.T. TOM STOPPARD'S JUMPY LINEN. Mon.-Sat. 7 & 9.15.

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THEATRES

YOUNG VIC (near Old Vic). 928 6363. Tonight, Mon. next 7.45 & Tues. 3 & 7.45. TWELFTH NIGHT. It's a ... I enjoyed the play so much ... Tms. Tomor. 3 & 7.45. Thurs. 7.45 THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND with SEASIDE POSTCARD. Wed. next 7.45 ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. 928 6363. Tonight & Tomor at 8 (Final perfs). Morning Picture Mime Show present THE SEVEN SAMURAI and other stories. Mar. 22, 23 & 30 Young Vic Co in Dannie Abse's COME IN JANUARY.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 734 5051. From 8 p.m. Dine/Dance: 6.50. Revue RAZZLE DAZZLE. JACKIE TRENT & TONY HATCH From Mon: MADELINE BELL.

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2 Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861. Sep. Perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE. 1: SILVER BEARS (A). Wk. & Sun.: 1.45, 5.00, 8.00. Late show Sat. 11.30 (last 6 days). 2: THE BOYS IN COMPANY C (X). Wk. & Sun.: 2.00, 5.15, 8.15. Late show Sat. 11.15 (last 6 days).

ACADEMY ONE. 437 2981. Carne and Prevert's DROLE DE DRAME (A). Progs. 2.40, 4.40, 6.40, 8.40.

ACADEMY TWO. 437 5129. Claude Goretta's THE LACE-MAKER (AA). Progs. 1.50, 3.50, 5.15, 8.30.

ACADEMY THREE. 437 5497. Bertolucci's THE SPIDER'S STRATAGEM (A). Progs. 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.

CAMDEN PLAZA (opp. Camden Town Tube). 485 2443. Robert Bresson's magnificent THE DEVIL, PROBABLY (X). 4.45, 6.50, 9.00.

COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave. (754 5413). SINBAD AND THE EYE OF THE TIGER (U). Cont. progs. (12.50 not Sun.). 4.35, 8.35.

CRIMEBUSTERS (A). Cont. progs. 3.50, 6.50. Late show Sat. 11.00 p.m. CRIMEBUSTERS only!

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737. PARDON MON AFFAIRE (X). (English sub-titles). "A Sparkling New French Comedy. Directed with Finesse by Yves Robert." —Sunday Express. Progs. 1.30 (not sun.), 3.55, 6.10 and 8.30.

DOMINION, Tott. Ct. Rd. (580 9562). Mon. to Wed. (Tel. bkgs. Disc. 2.00, 5.15, 8.35. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45 p.m. Seats bkable for 2.15 & 5.35 progs. WKS. & all Progs. Sat. & Sun.

THE ARTS

Modernizing the House of Atreus

Elektra
New, Cardiff

William Mann

Welsh National Opera have broken new ground with their first venture upon the operas of Richard Strauss; and they have plunged in thigh-deep with *Elektra*, music by the most advanced of all in terms of progressive language. The plunge goes even deeper with the choice of Harry Kupfer from Dresden as the opera's producer. Strauss would certainly, on the evidence of his own essay on *Elektra*, have been appalled by Mr Kupfer's production and Wilfried Werz's scenic designs, twin parts of a single conception: the libretti st Hugo von Hofmannsthal, a poet of most refined taste, must be spinning like a teetotum in his tomb. Nevertheless, 70 years after they completed the work, a different and more emphatic approach to *Elektra* may more vividly bring home to audiences today the terror and pity of its contents. Messrs Kupfer and Werz do so, by methods of exaggeration which might be better suited to the operas of Schoenberg or Schreker than to those of Strauss even at his most psychopathic. I would not call it an irresponsible gloss on the opera's data: it will rouse controversy (the authors must have intended that) but it does illuminate the essence and the issues of the Electra legend as Hoffmannsthal viewed it at the beginning of the century.

Strauss's music, fortunately, is not at all perverted by the impressive conducting of Richard Armstrong, the expert playing of the Welsh Philharmonia (the official orchestral reduction has to be used for their purposes, as for all but the largest opera houses) or the singing of an excellent cast. In the name part, Pauline Tinsley excels herself in stamina, intensity, and eloquence of voice and bearing; she masters the pathos of the first monologue, and the welling emotional relief of the recognition, as well as—predictably—the relentlessly vengeful fury of the scene with Clytemnestra, first calm, then bloodthirsty. She is a wiry, restless, concentrated Electra, unforgettable even by exalted standards.

Debria Brown's Clytemnestra, wide-eyed, and gaping-mouthed, is sung with a hollow, rasping hoot, rich in nuance and weirdly terrifying. Anne Evans conveys all the weakness and yearning of Chrysothemis while still pouring out strong and clean soprano tone. Willard White's Orestes, ripe and burnished of voice, falls nobly on the ear, and he enunciates Anthony Hose's English translation more clearly than any of his colleagues (it is hard to understand even when one reads it in print). The smallest roles are strongly sun, chiefly by company members.

The House of Atreus, by the time Orestes returned, was in a bedraggled mess, so Kupfer and Werz suggest. No solid Lion Gate, but a flimsy façade like Japanese *shasi*, rumpled transparent polythene walls, a floor like a huge dish of collapsed meringues, skeletons, and animal sacrifices everywhere, some tidied and removed by servants, whose white clothes and faces drip with blood.

Besmirched white is the background. Black is the crumbling, headless statue of Agamemnon, held together with ropes and effectively preventing many of the audience (nearly half of us) from seeing all that takes place upstage, including the entrance of Clytemnestra, the onstage murder of Aegistheus, and the final return of Orestes (disputable innovations, those two). The statue is a nuisance, but central to the action: the family cling to it, even Clytemnestra, and the ropes bring about Electra's death.

She, too, is clad in black, Orestes's skin is black, like that of the human sacrifice at the Queen's entry (a distracting gloss for which I find no reasonable excuse). Black is the colour of good people, and of Debria Brown who is whited-up to signify, perhaps, that Clytemnestra has gone to the bad. But Aegistheus, supposed to be a ludicrous fop, is a burly bull of a man (John Mitchinson, indeed), and he, too, is clad in black, while basically good Chrysothemis is all white.

There are inconsistencies, as there are excrescences, in Kupfer's production, and absurdities, too: the antics of the maids, hurling cauldrons across the floor, unaptly recalled Monty Python, and the obsessional swinging from Agamemnon's robes also becomes more comic than tragic, like the convention whereby no character is addressed without being smitten to the ground.

Even so, the production is done with such zestful conviction that it nearly comes off, and could do so completely, given further attention. The seriousness is memorably shown by the gentle, tearful sinuous movements of Orestes and Electra during the recognition scene and, before that, his panic-stricken rush towards the still silent palace when she shouts his name. At such times (there are others) the lyric theatre retains its pristine function. After its Cardiff baptism, the production moves, next month, to Birmingham, Bristol and Oxford.



Debria Brown

Good news from outer space

David Robinson

Close Encounters of the Third Kind (a)
Odeon, Leicester Square

1900 (x)
Classic Complex, Oxford Street (from March 23)

Adoption
ICA (March 21-26)

The cinema's apparent rush to extinction has so far been retarded by a series of saviours, an oddly regular succession of films which have for some reason not always discernible caught the imagination or the mood of a universal public. Each in turn has exceeded the massive commercial success of the last, earning astronomic sums to prop up a film industry in which it is ordinarily hard to earn back the bare cost of a film. In turn there have been *Love Story* (1970), *The Godfather* (1972), *The Exorcist* (1974), *Jaws* (1975), and *Star Wars* (1977).

Young Steven Spielberg, still only 32, has had the remarkable talent or good fortune to make two of these charmed films, following *Jaws*, the miracle film of 1975, with *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* which promises, to judge only from the American figures and the frenzy in Leicester Square, to do the same for 1978.

Encountered in cold isolation, without the knowledge of the magic it works upon its audiences, the film would appear much like *Jaws*, a patchy work from a writer-director-story-teller of superior skills that were first revealed in his small-scale masterpiece, *Duel*. The best bits, though, are far better than anything in *Jaws*. For that matter they are among the most spectacular scenes in cinema, marvels of special effects and design (conceived by Spielberg himself). Still unidentified, the flying objects skim the countryside, elusive in form, mysterious structures of light. At the end, formal visitors from another place, they descend, massive, majestic, luminous; dazzling and deafening with astounding sound effects.

"What is happening?" Someone anxiously asks the sagacious Dr Lacombe (François Truffaut). "Je ne sais pas", he replies (being French), "mais c'est beau." This might be the motto of the film. The bewilderment of the hero (Richard Dreyfuss), who for reasons clear neither to himself nor to us is impelled to follow the track of the UFOs as the Wise Men followed the Star, is shared rather freely with the audience. Between the early spectacle sequences and the great showpiece of the end, the film tends to be long, diffuse and (but for a certain anticipation) tedious. There is all too much time to ponder what might have been cut with benefit (notably a section of comic relief which is the sort of thing that neither Spielberg nor Dreyfuss does with style). Further needless length is provided by the casting of François Truffaut. Endearing actor though he is, it looks like the folly of a Continental film buff to have cast in a leading role, without any dramatic purpose, an actor who all the time has to be sub-titled or interpreted. Generally, there is every indication that Spielberg was hard pushed to spin out the spectacle to the obligatory two hours and more of a Big Picture.

With all its virtues, which are considerable, and its faults, which are evident, the most interesting fact of the film is its fascination for the public. Has Spielberg anticipated the next phase of the universal search for distraction or balm for communal anxieties? *The Godfather* caught a cynicism that heralded Watergate. *The Exorcist* and *Jaws* represented a search for imaginary terrors to provide relief from real ones, following an established historical pattern: crazes for screen horror coincided with economic insecurity in Germany in the early Twenties and the United States in the early Thirties.

Close Encounters is new and remarkable for its optimistic view of the mystic and the unknown. Traditionally visitors from outer space have been either hostile or repelled with hostility. In *Close Encounters* the public who turn out at night to watch for the UFOs are more curious than frightened; and one of them carries a scrawled placard pleading "Be Friendly!" And so they are. When the visitors from space besiege and invade a rural cottage, it is only because they have befriended a little boy, and simply want to take him off to play. The other people they deliver back to earth along with him at the end are bewildered but unharmed, communication is established through musical notes; and the great space vehicle speaks with the gentle elephantine voice of the biggest tuba in the world.

Spielberg has perhaps hit on a new need for reassurance that the unknown may not be bad, that there may indeed be other, better, wiser, kindlier worlds than this one. The visitors we glimpse are aetherial, misty creatures, with the forms of angels and cherubs. When a group of travellers, including our hero, go off to accompany them, the music swells up, and there is the sense that they are ascending to some reassuring Victorian heaven.

It is as well to remember that *The Blue Bird* with its mystical atmospheres and images and consolations, was filmed in 1916 and 1940, each time as the United States was in the acute anxiety of impending entry into a great war. (Silence has for the present descended on the 1976 remake by George Cukor.) Translating scientific mystery and widely shared apprehensions about Unidentified Flying Objects into a comparative sort of optimistic mysticism, Spielberg may have hit upon a needed consolation for the times.

Bernardo Bertolucci is down to earth and history. *1900* is an inadequate translation of *Novecento*, which signifies an era rather than a date. Since the film first appeared at Cannes two years ago, Bertolucci has cut more than half an hour from its original five hours 20 minutes. He is reported to be pleased with the result, though so far as it is possible to make comparisons at such a distance of time, cutting the quieter and more atmospheric parts has only emphasized the film's weakness for the big dramatic effect.

Bertolucci's grand purpose is a massive family saga—on the lines of a Victorian novel, or of Hollywood's versions of Edna Ferber, with homages to the Visconti both of *La Terra Trema* and of *The Damned*—which shall also chronicle the continuing conflict of capital and labour in Italy. He concentrates his narrative on the life and times and fortunes of two men born at the turn of the century in rural Emilia. Alfredo Berlinghieri (Robert de Niro) is the heir of a family estate; Olmo (Gerard Depardieu) is the bastard child of the vast family of Dalco, feudal employees on the Berlinghieri farms. Their patriarchal grandfathers remember Garibaldi, and have lived to see an era in which the workers dare to challenge the masters.

The younger men grow up in mutual love and conflict. They survive the first war, watch the rise of Fascism, live through the second war and its aftermath. In the euphoria of 1945, the peasants declare the *padrone* dead; but the symbolic epilogue to the film, as mysterious as the ending of *The Spider's Strategy*, shows the two now aged men locked in a struggle that continues right up to the present.

This epilogue, and the early sequences of the film when the Berlinghieri estate is still dominated by the nineteenth-century joint feudal rule of the patriarchs, played by Burt Lancaster and Sterling Hayden, are the most successful parts of the film. In the early scenes Bertolucci captures the wholeness of the countryside—nobility and ignorance, natural beauty and natural filth, dung and milk, primitive sexuality, old religions, new faiths, eternal landscapes and skies—with a passionate feeling for his native land. Here too he is most successful in the musical impetus he seeks for the film. The film opens with the cry "Verdi è morto" (except that that is no longer what is said, because the film is now unhappily dubbed, except for a few of the main characters); but Verdi can hardly die with Ennio Morricone to provide such convincing pastiche; and this operatic musical commentary combines effectively with folk music and political songs.

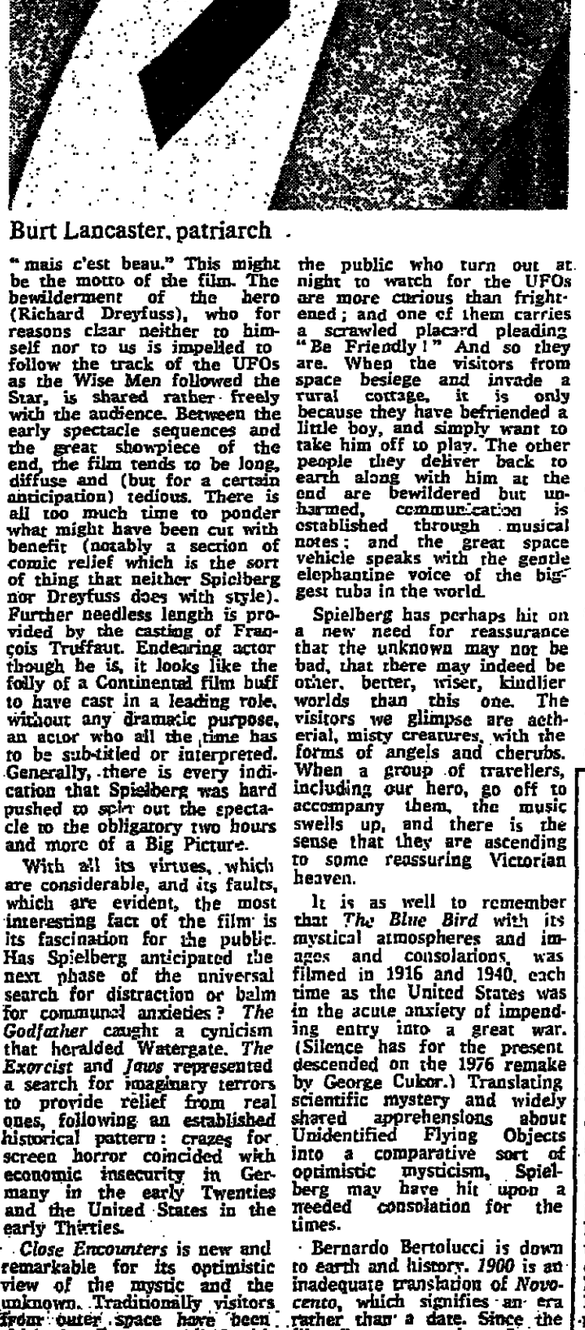
With the rise of the Fascist era, signalled by the introduction of a bestial, eye-rolling character called Attila and atrociously played by Donald Sutherland, the film falls away into simplistic political history quite out of scale with the ambitions of the rest. The Fascists are vicious, violent, brutish, child-slaying thugs, supported by a hypocritical and merciless church—all of which evades the true horror and mystery of fascism, that it was created by rather ordinary, well-intentioned citizens. The workers are brave and noble and exploited and incorruptible. Characters, in these circumstances, diminish to symbols; and those who don't (Ottavio, Alfredo's uncle, formed in the mould of naughty Baron von Gloeden of Taormina; Dominique Sanda as his capricious companion and Alfredo's wife) rather rapidly evaporate from the story.

Even the set pieces which Bertolucci does skilfully and superbly (an elaborately staged sequence of a simultaneous duck shoot and an attempt by the military to put down a strike; the funeral of some fascist victims) become fewer with the second part of the film, so that there is less distraction from a growing concern that Bertolucci has wandered far out of his depth.

The first part of the film will be showing from March 23 and the second from March 30; thereafter the two sections will run concurrently.

If you feel like something quieter, there is a chance to see Márta Mészaros's *Adoption*—originally screened on television last October—at the ICA. With this film the Hungarian director definitively discovered her ideal theme and style, in recording the intimate sensibilities and relationships of women, which subsequently resulted in the excellent *Nine Months* and most recently *The Two of Them*. *Adoption* tells of two women, alike only in loneliness, who come together when a frustrated, childless 40-year-old "adopts" a feckless reform school girl and her illegitimate baby. The film is co-scripted by Mészaros and Gyula Hernardi, who is best known for his scripts, in very different style, for the films of Mészaros's former husband Miklós Jancsó.

The ICA is also presenting a series of screenings and discussions on new independent British cinema. On Wednesday Nigel Andrews of the *Financial Times* introduces *The Experiences*, a two-and-a quarter-hour film by Michael Kohler and Brian Hedwig-Larsen. Shot over a long period in many remote and exotic locations, the film is, to say the very least, a work of fine ambition, nothing less than an odyssey through the subconscious. The symbols are—no doubt intentionally—elusive. The directors' power of visualization is evident.



Burt Lancaster, patriarch

Mme de Pompadour portrait on view

The portrait of Madame de Pompadour by Drouais (1727-1775) which was bought by the National Gallery from Lord Rosebery in 1977 has been cleaned, and is now back on display in Room 33 of the gallery.

The painting, which was discovered to be in an even better condition that first thought was covered in a browny-yellow varnish which dulled the colour. The background was further disguised by a brown layer of paint added by a later hand. With these removed, the picture has become lighter and more airy. A subtle green marbling effect discovered on the back wall links in colour with the cool glazes in the very fine dress. During the cleaning the head and arms of Madame de Pompadour were found to be painted on a separate piece of canvas from the rest of the picture.

It was not unusual for eighteenth-century French portraitists to paint the head and shoulders of a sitter on a small canvas and then let it into the centre of a larger canvas and complete the painting. Often the artist had to travel to see the sitter, taking his canvas with him, so it had to be of a manageable size. He would paint the head from life, and finish the rest of the body and the clothes working from a model in his studio. This was probably what happened in the case of Drouais's *Madame de Pompadour*. Drouais signed the picture, and also added the inscription: "the head was finished in April, 1763, and the picture completed in May, 1764.

Madam de Pompadour died before the picture was finished. She was 41, and suffering from a wasting sickness.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Thee and Me
Duke's Playhouse, Lancaster

Ned Chaillet

It was not a holiday at Morecambe that burnished the sun-cracked visages of the Lancashire folk in Philip Martin's horrific comedy. Like the green and pleasant land of England itself, they have been burnt and destroyed by permanent drought. With the collapse of the earth's protective ozone layer, much of the world has become desert and English civilization has withdrawn to a few cities where water is rationed by an all-powerful State.

As Mr Martin shows it, Lancashire is outside the civilized regions, and it takes some courage to show that in Lancaster. Survival has become a matter of desperate labour and subsistence. The people in his story have found the most vital ingredient, a spring of pure water, but they are ruled by Jack Gromer, a patriarch whose creed is resistance to the state and whose absolute power has emasculated his only son, Will.

Will's marriage begins the play, with a celebratory display of clog dancing and a home-grown ceremony involving the sprinkling of the new sacrament, water. The ceremony may be, as Gromer claims, as valid as "vows spoken afore preacher in yesteryear", but it does not prevent Will from proving impotent on the night. With Will married, though slow in producing citizens for the new society, Gromer is left with two daughters to marry off and the only suitable claimant is a vile and filthy horse-owner, splendidly and repellently portrayed by David Gant.

The arrival of a traveller, a water prospector for the dreaded State, changes the balance. Although clad rather foolishly in futuristic white pyjamas, he is potentially a bringer of light, offering the view that there is more freedom in the State than in Gromer's despotic rule. Just how correct he is will be proved in a violent and ritualistic return to the clog dancing which began the play.

It may not be a traditional Lancashire comedy, but it is as much a comedy as *The Taming of the Shrew*, ending, like that play, in exultant subjucation. Mr Martin is at times quite dazzling in his turns from jokes to ritual, though in the haste and frequency of his changes of mood he loses something of each style.

All the citizens of Lancashire may not enjoy seeing such a dour fate predicted for their individuality, and it is odd to find the author of television's anarchic *Gangsters* series speaking so eloquently for the rule of State, but in its visionary boldness the play is remarkably effective.

John Blackmore's and Bob Carlton's staging captures the variety of moods and elicits solid, convincing and occasionally sensual performances from the entire cast. The setting of abandoned waterpipes in which the people live suggests with simplicity the blasted countryside, and the movement of a goat and the scratching of chickens on the stage lend an odd reality to the fable.

Withdrawal Symptoms
ICA

Irving Wardle

As the first theatrical footnote to Operation Julie, C. P. Taylor's play shows society rushing to the aid of people who feel no need of help. "I have no problem, that's the problem", declares the main character, a girl history-lecturer who enjoys the occasional shot of heroin and has been committed to a drugs rehabilitation centre as a soft option to Holloway.

As you would expect from the title, drugs figure only as a metaphor for a wide range of addictions; and, as the play develops, it appears that all the characters are hooked on something or other.

Carol, in fact, does have a problem as the descendant of a family who prospered as consuls to the empire during the opium wars in China. A glibber writer than Mr Taylor would have presented her drug habit as a rebellion against her ultra-liberal parents: in fact, she simply uses it as "something to look forward to" while remaining on affably remote Christian name terms with them.

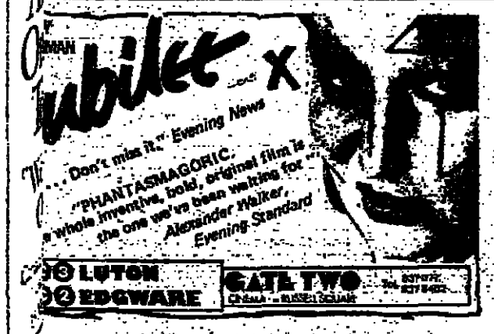
The price Mr Taylor pays for acknowledging the complexities of his subject is that its larger issues never come properly into focus, and the run of sharp cinematic scenes in Roland Rees's production leaves you to draw your own general conclusions. Within the nebulous historical framework, however, there is a smaller but highly concentrated drama on the good old theme of class warfare.

Inside the drug community Carol goes through obligatory encounter sessions with fellow addicts, all her seniors in rehabilitation, but also her class inferiors. It soon becomes apparent that the loving care, the clammy evangelistic appeals, and the sanctions they officially invoke, are dictated not by therapeutic concern, but by class hostility.

Whether or not the author intended it, these scenes are viciously funny and bring you completely round to her side, not as a foul-mouthed, alternative society drop-out, but as an aristocrat among peasants who turns their cross bullying and sentimental arguments aside by her constitutional incapacity to knuckle under.

Mary Maddox resolutely mutes this side of the character, and offers a reading that is nine-tenths sub-text, but what she shows is quite enough to throw Antony Milner and Chris Hallam as her fellow inmates into paroxysms of carper-gnawing frustration. The effect is cruelly funny, but I doubt whether it is quite what the Foco Novo company had in mind.

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PARLIAMENT, March 16, 1978

Mr Silkin will not budge on minimum demands for fishing

House of Commons

Mr John Silkin Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said there was no movement on his side on his minimum demands for a fishing regime but there were signs the other eight EEC countries were moving.

Mr Silkin had told **Mr David Mudd** (Falmouth and Cambourne, C) that no meetings of the Council of Fisheries Ministers of the EEC were scheduled.

Mr Mudd—When he meets his European colleagues, I hope he will impress upon them, when they discuss conservation measures, the early warning fears expressed by Cornish fishermen of the classic signs of the early fishings of the Cornish mackerel stock.

He *should discuss the possibility* of establishing a six-mile zone wherein no vessel of more than 80 feet shall fish.

Mr Silkin (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab)—Mackerel fishing needs watching and I was glad that our industry started something of a self-denying ordinance. We are in this instance fortunate in having no historic rights within the 12-mile raea. But a lot of thought and care is needed. This is one of the great potential fishery stocks of our country.

Mr Robert Hicks (Bodmin, C)—When Mr Silkin lays the additional conservation measures for South-west mackerel, will he take account of the needs of the smaller inshore fishermen in such counties?

Mr Silkin—This is an important factor. There have been consultations between my officials and the fishing interests concerned with mackerel, particularly the small inshore fishermen.

We hope to get an all-industry view. This has presented some difficulties, but we may be able to get some kind of *modus vivendi*. I think this will be achieved relatively soon.

Mr Robert Hughes (Aberdeen, North, Lab)—What are Mr Silkin's immediate requirements for concluding a satisfactory fishing regime? Does he know how far, if at all, our European partners are prepared to move towards meeting these?

Mr Silkin—It might, in the absence of scheduled fisheries councils, be apposite to restate these immediate demands.

One is for an exclusive zone between nought and 12 miles. Another is for a dominent preference between 12 and 50 miles—dominant because there must be effort limitation, also because quotas are not enough by themselves. They would be dominant in that the United Kingdom would get a dominant share of the growth.

A third demand is for a more than adequate scientific basis of conservation which has not yet *been put forward by the Commission* or anyone but ourselves.

On how far other countries would be prepared to move—I get signs that there are movements by the other eight. On the minimum requirements, there is n omovement on my side.

Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L)—I cannot name a single West *country fisherman who believes* the measures taken so far are sufficient to preserve the Cornish mackerel stock long term.

Mr Silkin—This cut in mackerel fishing—the self-denying ordinance—was started by the industry. I hope and believe they will hav ekept to it and that there will have been some result.

In later fishing exchanges, **Mr John Peyton**, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture and fisheries (Yeovil, C) said—Does he think the time has come actually to do something? It would be a helpful way of propelling discussions along by actually announcing some positive conservation measures which he will take, and by giving a clear date as to when he is going to introduce them.

Mr Silkin—Mr Peyton probably was not listening in February when I introduced national measures, now in existence.

Discussions are going on with the Commission. If we have to make unilateral conservation measures in our own waters—all right, that is a matter we must consider. Clearly, it is better if we get member states to cooperate and get an agreed solution.

Mr Peyton—He should now say when he thinks it would be reasonable to introduce specific conservation measures.

Mr Silkin—I will bring about other measures at the due moment, but I still think it is worth while spending a little time to see whether these measures can be imposed throughout the waters of all the EEC member states. The EEC Commission's previous proposals were totally unacceptable because they were totally negative.

Civil liability and compensation proposals could be costly

Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, made a statement on the report of the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury published today. The Royal Commission was established five years ago to examine present practice for compensation for personal injuries, including the particular concern felt about children injured through thalidomide.

The Government (he said) are grateful to Lord Pearson and his colleagues for the work and for the comprehensive report which they have produced. It contains numerous recommendations for change. The main ones are:

The two systems of compensation for personal injury through civil liability and through social security should continue to exist side by side but with an altered relationship, and that social security should be recognized as the principal means of compeosation.

A no fault scheme of state compensation should be introduced for to be financed by a levy on petrol: this would provide benefit in *respect of injuries, irrespective of* blame.

Manufacturers should be strictly liable (that is, without proof of negligence) for injuries caused by defective products.

Anew state benefit should be introduced for all severely handicapped children whatever the cause of their handicap.

The Government or local authority concerned should be strictly liable for severe damages caused by vaccination where vaccination was recommended in the interests of the community.

The industrial injuries scheme should be extended to cover self-employed and certain benefits of the scheme should be increased at the expense of employers.

Social security benefits should be fully offset in assessing damages awarded by the courts for personal injuries.

The Royal Commission's proposals are (he continued) far-reaching and have important implications. Their implementation would affect consumers, manufacturers, employers, employees, trade unions, motorists, insurers and handicapped children.

The Government will therefore study the recommendations with care and urgency and consult interested organizations as appropriate.

In reaching their decisions, the Government will have regard to the public expenditure cost of implementing the proposals which could be considerable.

As the House will recall, the Government have already announced their commitment to introduce a scheme of payments for severe damage caused by vaccination. Decisions on the form of the scheme have been awaiting the Royal Commission's report.

As soon as the relevant recommendations have been considered—and this will be done as a matter of urgency—the Secretary of State for Social Services (Mr David Ennals) will make a further statement.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C)—Do the recommendations on injuries caused by defective products—I imagine some of them are meant to go to thalidomide cases—include recommendations about the unborn child?

Does the report include details of the benefit implications both of the public finances and the kind of costs the self-employed would have to face if they were to provide cover?

Are all the financial implications calculated in the report

Mr Callaghan—There is a total placed on the cost. That is £130m. I have not yet gone into the details of how it has been calculated. That would be part of the public spending.

As regards the unborn child there is a substantial statement on that in the Royal Commission but I prefer not to go into it because I do not want to mislead the House and I want to be sure of the recommendations.

Mr Leopold Abse (Pontypool, Lab)—The suggestion that social security payments should be taken inro full account when damages are awarded will be of concern to trade unions, particularly when damages received in British courts are so much lower for injured workmen than in most other sophisticated countries. I hope the Government will consider that.

While there may be many attractions to a no-fault scheme, would Mr Callaghan not acknowledge that it is a scheme, which apart from causing increases in the price of petrol, could be a scheme which could have a burgeoning bureaucracy which could mean that the reckless could benefit from the care of other motorists?

Mr Callaghan—I realize this would be a matter of great concern. The question of motor car injuries is well argued in the report and I am sure Mr Abse will read it wi care.

This illustrates the need for the Government to be careful in further consideration and to receive representations from any groups who wish to put them to us.

At the same time some of those recommendations reas o valusble that I would not want to see them delayed indefinitely. I therefore ask ministers concerned to go ahead with consultations as quickly as they can.

Mr Emlyn Hooson (Montgomeryshire, L)—The report is welcome, indicating, as it does, the need not to establish blame to gain compensation. But it took five years to prepare the report and I hope it will not take another five years to implement some of the proposals.

Is it possible to hav ea debate before the end of the session when the Government could say what *their priorities are for the many* recommendations? Some of them could thus be implemented easily.

Mr Callaghan—I would like to consider that sympathetically because this report does into many new fields which concern many people.

Though three months is not long for a Government to consider these matters I would nevertheless want ministers to have a proper opportunity for consultation. I would certainly like to consider whether we cannot have a preliminary debate before the summer recess.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab)—Would he ensure that the proposals for helping disabled children will not only be adequate but generous?

While I welcome the proposals for strict liability for drugs damage, it would be outrageous to insist that vaccing damaged children go through thhe courts to define, not prove, that strict liability.

Would Mr Callaghan set up an independent court to consider this question of strict liability in addition to the proposal for compensation for children already damaged by vaccine?

Mr Callaghan—The Government are giving urgent consideration to this plan in respect of these children. *But it was right for us to* wait. We are having parallel consideration of the general recommendations that have been made by the Royal Commission in respect of the great body of children.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn (Kinross and West Perthshire, C)—If one opens the doors to the no-fault *liability concept* there are grave dangers that those who have disadvantages, such as one eye or one leg, as a result of birth, illness or accident may also have to be compensated in equity.

Mr Callaghan—I take note of that.

Mr Frederick Burden (Gillingham, C)—Will he give an undertaking that the recommendations regarding handicapped children will receive his special consideration and that of ministers?

Mr Callaghan—I giv that undertaking. At present, apart from child benefit, there are attendance allowances and handicapped children have access to the full range of health and social services. If there are any gaps in them I will ask ministers to look at them.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab)—To extend no-fault liability only to those who are injured in road accidents will increase the sense of injustice of those injured at work or in the home. It is unfortunate that on this occasion after so much consideration we should lose the chance to go over to something like the New Zealand scheme which is totally comprehensive and found to be cheaper than the present system because you save on lawyers' fees.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab)—Inasmuch as he bets opposition to no-fault liability substantially from the legal profession will he be wary of that? The extra public expenditure cost of these schemes can be very much compensated by the smaller amount of money flowing into the pockets of the lawyers.

Mr Callaghan—I do not want to make dnemies of the lawyers. There are too many in this House to quarrel with. I share some of his views about this. I would like to think that some of the fees that now go to the legal profession could be diverted to channels where they would do even more good.

Mr John E vans (Newton, Lab)—There is a Common Market regulation at present before the European institutions on employers' liability. If the Government legislate will he ensure that there is comparability between the two schemes?

Mr Callaghan—I am aware of this draft directive. *We will take it into* account in any recommendations we make and try to make the two comparable.

The Danish share of market for bacon

Mr Edward Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said he did not want to make any predictions on the matter when he was pressed to comment on the likely Danish share of the British bocon market by the end of this year.

Asked about the size of the pig breeding herd. **Mr Bishop** (Newark, Lab) said—The most recent *United Kingdom census for which* results are available was taken in December, 1977, when the number of sows and gilts in pig was 819,000.

Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C)—The breeding herd, particularly gilts, which is a bad omen for the future, is down and the pig farmer, of all farmers, has had a *difficult time*.

When the Danes are publicly saying they want a larger share of the British market, and saying that with the financial advantages we know they have, and bearing in mind that this affects the whole industry right through from the producer to the retailer, what has he to say about the future of the pig farmer and pig industry?

Mr Bishop—The fall in the breeding herd has been slightly less than was predicted. Had it not been for the temporary subsidy of £17m that we brought in—until we were required to change the policy—the situation would have been much worse.

We have been pressing consistently for the *Community to look* at the revaluation of the MCAs.

Mr John Peyton, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Yeovil, C)—Will he urge Mr Silkin to give a bit stronger support to the French and Italian ministers on this question of recalculating MCAs? This is crucial. How does he face the prospect that by the end of this year the Danes will have taken over something like 48 per cent of our market?

Mr Bishop—Mr Peyton has it the wrong way round. Mr Silkin has been pressing consistently for over a year to get the kind of resolution on the MCAs which is now being given support by the French.

Mr Peyton—Will he answer the *question about the Danish share of* the market? There is every prospect that by the end of the year the Danes are likely to have 48 per cent of the bacon market here.

Mr Bishop—I do not want to make any predictions on this matter. He will know of the steps taken by Mr Silkin and the slight improvement because of th echange in the green pound.

Significant achievements in public spending but Mr Barnett concerned at short-fall

Concern about the level of the shortfall in Government expenditure last year and this year was expressed by Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a debate on public expenditure. He also said the country could not afford a return to uncontrolled surges of expenditure in previous years which led inexorably to damaging cutbacks.

Mr Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab) moved that the House take note of the Government's expenditure plans, 1978-79 to 1981-82, and approve the plans to increase public expenditure in view of the need to reduce unemployment and improve public services.

He said that no one knew by what percentage the eventual 1978-79 level of public expenditure would exceed the eventual 1977 outturn. Anyone who pretended to know was either a fool or a knave, or both. He was not sure where that left *Sir Geoffrey Howe* (East Surrey, C), who fu a typical piece of instant statement-mongering within minutes of the Whit ePaper being available, pronounced that the Government were planning a real increase of 8.2 per cent.

If they compared the estimated outturn for 1977-78, which was the planned expenditure after shortfall, with the planned figure for 1978-79 without shortfall, they got that figure. They could also get a whole range of different percentage increases, as many commentators did, between 2 and 8 per cent.

All they had in common was that they were all estimates, or best guesses. If they compared plan with plan, the increase was 2.2 per cent; that did not purport o show what would be the eventual outturn.

N one could know what that would be. Within a range of reasonable estimates of shortfall, the increase could be about 4 per cent. The shortfall confused the picture but was at the heart of the problem.

He was concerned about the amounts of shortfall last year and this year. Some forms were more serious than others. Not all shortfall was connected with underspending; some arose from deliberate policy decisions.

Where shortfall was is t nature of underspending, there were many causes. *In some cases it* was due to improved economic administration, which was to be applauded; in others, it might reflect a tendency to overestimate requirements. Where programmes were extendd or nw projects launched, progress might b eslower than hoped.

A degree of shortfall was only to be expected when planning figures were used as a basis for setting control limits. The Government expected some underspending to occur for that reason and allowed for it in their plans for managing the economy.

Where shortfall represented a failure to achieve a planned level of service it was a lost opportunity. Shortfall must be reduced as far as possible. The remedy was *not* to jack up the existing programme but to improve management.

It was vital to establish now that there was room for considerable increase in public expenditure.

Expansion no less than retrenchment must be effectively controlled. The country could not afford a return to the uncnotrolled surges of expenditure of previous years which led inexorably to damaging cutbacks.

The ability to keep expenditure within the stated total was vital to *the maineance of confidence*, o avoid inflation and the promotion of internal efficiency.

It was misleading to take a total figure of shortfall and try to translate it into an equivalent number of jobs. The estimates of the effect of shortfall on unemployment were not a simple calculation and could not be made with any confidence.

They had all seen the pain caused by having to cut overambitious plans; a vital element in the country's improved financial position had been the demonstration of the Government's readiness to keep firm control of public spending. That consrol was not only *essential* if they were to maintain a stable financial position but if they were to be able to increase public spending.

The Opposition had in mind substantial increases in expenditure on defence and on law and order and now one of their junior spokesmen said they wanted to spend more money on the inner cities.

He would like to know if they contemplated cutting temporary employment subsidy.

He did not complain that many Labour MPs pressed the Government to increase public expenditure. Against the background of the present international economic climate and their experience ovdr many years, it was essential not to plan to spend more than they could afford.

The Government could poont to *significant achievements in public* expenditure. Expenditure on housing in each year of this Government had been significantly higher than during the final two years of the last Conservative administration. They had sustained a steady growth in health and personal social services and had substantially increased pensions and social *security benefits*.

The Government were spending more in real terms on law and order and protective services than had the last Conservative Government. Their record on overseas aid demonstrated their concern for the plight of the third world.

These improvements had been achieved when real living standards had declined. Things were improving and take home pay was starting to rise again. There was a lot of ground still to be made up. That was why their plans for the growth of public expenditure needed to be within the likely growth of gdp over the White Paper period.

Most MPs would like to see more planned growth of the economy, but the country must earn it first.

Meanwhile, they must not jeopardize their prospects by giving the cynical Opposition the opportunity to preside over the destruction of the public service. They did not have the honesty to spell out their secret plans and their amendment should be rejected.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Opposition spokesman on financial matters (East Surrey, C), moved; "That this House declines to approve a White Paper which fails to restore a proper balance between capital and current expenditure, and which leaves inadequate scope for the reductions in taxation needed to create a healthy and thriving economy."

He said the White Paper contained no monetary analysis or reference to the money supply. This was not surprising when figures this afternoon showed that it was roaring ahead at 14.75 per *cent after the Chancellor had* prided himself on setting money supply targets of 9 to 13 per cent.

The White Paper contained no assessmen tof the outlook for the economy, but did contain a rather coy and defensible assumption about the growth rate for the economy for the year ahead. Treasury witnesses had said the figure, of 3.5 per cent was not a target, policy, or forecast, but a short of projection.

Gowth of 4 per cent in public spending with a gross domestic product growth of less than that would be taking the country down the wrong road.

Mr Barnett must know that if taxes were to be cut in the forthcoming Budget—as they were told there were going to be—then on these plans if there was a 4 per cent growth in spending in the nex tyear and the nation's gdp grew by less than that, it was inevitable that a Labour chancellor in office in 12 months' time—which there would not be—would be obliged to start putting taxes up again.

There was no prospect of the economy recovering its prosperity from a dramatic expansion of exports by some form of export-led growth.

The movement of trade figures in the last three or six months underlined, in the words of the Bank of England Bulletin, that the outlook for export-led growth was *sombre*.

To argue that temporary employment subsidy or subsidies to the steel industry were any long-term answer to Britain's problems was to deceive themselves.

The Government knew that TES and subsidies to the steel industry created no wealth and in the long run did not even save jobs.

Money spent in that way destroyed jobs because it was coming from the taxes paid by other working people and other companies in which the jobs should come.

Taxpayers were paying for growing bureaucracies which in themselves were stifling enterprise and growth. Conservative-controlled councils had shown how they could reduce public spending by 10 to 20 per cent by tighter administration, as central Government should be doing.

Savings could also be made by abandoning some socialist policies which had already been pu ton the *statute book, such as the* Community Land Act.

For some purposes, public spending was essential and desirable but uncontrolled public spending reduced available jobs, lowered living standards and stimulated inflation.

The Whit ePaper offered no prospect of decreasing public spending *and if it continued at the rate* forecast in the White Paper there would be no prospect of tax cuts nor a revival of the economy.

Mr Michael English (Nottingham, West, Lab) said the shortfall wa much bigger than anything the Chancellor or Chief Secretary intended in their expenditure cuts. That made all this a myth and the *debate was about a fiction*.

Capital expenditure cuts here were of the order of 23 per cent deeper than current expenditure cuts. The bulk of current expendiure was on jobs in the Civil Service, local government and so forth. He did not want to see civil servants anymore than anybody else unemployed but if they felt they must cut public expenditure the burden should be borne fairly.

The man in the Whitehall office, however reluctant they might be to sack him, should be as liable to the sack as the man in the building industry.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, UU) said all this agony of cuts in public expenditure derived from the folly of the *notion that it was* possible to set our a five-year programme for public expenditure matched as it ought to be with a five-year reliable indication of the resources that would be coming forward to match that programme.

So far from producing certainty, this method had produced chaos. So far from producing confidence in the management of expenditure programmes so that they should not be subjected to the disruption of sudden cuts, it had caused precisely that.

The projection of spending programmes in the light of unknown and unknowable but necessarily over-estimated availability of resources not only did nothing to maintain employment but was a positive hindrance to the maintenance of employment. Some time they had to give up this nonsense and go back to the proper budgeting which wasthe function of government which could only be done in the circumstances of each year as it emerged.

Canon Edwards

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas) said that the Rev Canon David Edwards, who had been Speaker's chaplain since September, 1974, had been appointed Dean of Norwich and would be conducting prayers in the House of Commons for the last time on Thursday, March 23.

World plan sought in time for July summit

Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said during question time that it was *his ambition to see if a* plan for the world economy could be constructed in time for the July summit in Bonn.

Mr Giles Radice (Chester-le-Street, Lab) had said a wide ranging package was needed to tackle the difficult problems of international growth, international trade, international monetary stability and international liquidity.

Mr Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab)—For something like 18 months now I have been endeavouring to get other world leaders to see the necessity for common action in this sphere. I believe there are now signs of a desire to take common action.

It is my ambition if possible to plan which would be based on the approaches of all countries in time for the July summit which is to be held in Bonn.

What is needed at present in the world is not only the series of measures Mr Radice talks about but the feeling that the world's economies are taking a grip so confidence can grow, especially in the United States and some countries on the continent.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C)—Why does Mr Callaghan always blame the world economy for our faults? Most of our competitors have done far better than we have on growth, productivity and unemployment and have far lower taxes than we have.

It would be better for Mr Callaghan to remedy the faults in his own economic policy for this country than look overseas for salvation.

Mr Callaghan—I try to do both. I have never failed to pocnt out the need for higher productivity in thi country and for greater efficiency and aggression in salesmnship overseas.

Mrs Thatcher should not try to extract the mote from my eye before she has extracted the beam from her own. There is a substantial international dimension to the problem of world trade and to world prosperity. I hope one day she will recognize it.

During other exchanges on the measures to relieve unemployment announced yesterday, **Mr James Prior**, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C) said it was in extraordinary state of affairs when Mr Callaghan could be congratulated by his own backbenchers on achieving unemployment of 1,400,000 with another 400,000 people having to be subsidized in jobs, a total of 1,900,0 unemployed under a Government that talked about "back to work with Labour". (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—I do not think it is a matter for congratulation at all. I do think that those who cheer that statement should reflect on what the level of unemployment would be if subsidies were abolished, if grants were done away with.

If the policies of the Conservative Party were carried out of cutting public expenditure even more, we would be talking about three million unemployed.

Opposition to any move to block NZ lamb imports

The Government would oppose any EEC proposals for a safeguard clause to stop New Zealand exports of lamb to Europe, **Mr John Silkin**, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said at question time.

Mr Douglas Jay (Waudsworth, Battersea, North, Lab) had asked him to give an assurance that no further obstacles would be placed in the way of imports of butter and lamb from New Zealand into the United Kingdom.

Mr John Silkin (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab)—I consider it of primary importance that New Zealand should be able to continue to export butter and lamb to this country.

I have made, and shall continue to make, our position clear in Community discussions, and shall keep in close touch with the New Zealand Government.

Mr Jay—As the Treaty of Rome is so keen on competition, it would be competition for artificially dear continental food if we imported foodstuffs from New Zealand free of quotas, levies or other restrictions.

Mr Silkin—Part of the programme we have is to liberalize the importation into the EEC of foodstuffs, particularly from Commonwealth countries, but from third countries in general. This is not something that is going to be achieved overnight. It is a long process.

Mr Emlyn Hooson (*ontgomeryshire, L*)—The estimated cost of transporting and handling one single carcass of lamb is £8.75 and this is one of the impediments to New Zealand trade. They welcome the increase in the price of lamb in this country as it helps their farmers.

Mr Silkin—My impression from discussions with my opposite numbers from New Zealand is that they still look upon themselves as a country which is willing and able to supply the United Kingdom with the traditional commodities, always exported to us at a price that the British consumer can afford.

Lab)—While appreciating the efforts he has made, does he feel these efforts will be blocked by the EEC? Are New Zealanders satisfied with the cavalier way in which they have been brushed off? They did fight for us in two world wars.

Mr Silkin—I am not altogether sure that last remark is first in the considerations of hardheaded agricultural ministers, but I hope it will always come into ours.

I hope that brush-off he talks of will at least be softened, if not totally avoided. They have the loyalty, friendship and kinship of the Government, and the people of this country.

Mr Michael Jopling, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Westmorland, C)—There is one particular aspect of the proposed sheepmest regime, whereby what is called a safeguard clause might be introduced to allow the Community to stop off all imports of, for instance, New Zealand lamb, at short notice.

Is that necessary in view of the serious impact for New Zealand lamb exports?

Mr Silkin—It is good to be able to agree with Mr Jopling for once. If such proposals were made, the Government would wish to resist them becauwe they are totally wrong.

Better to await verdict of arbitrators

Questioned about the teachers' pay dispute, **Mr Callaghan**, the Prime Minister, said it was always a principle when he was a trade union negotiator to wait when a matter had been referred to arbitration for the verdict of the arbitrators before taking action.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C) had said—One of the unions affiliated to the TUC—the National Union of Teachers—are, as a result of their action, causing widespread disruption in our schools.

Worse, large numbers of schoolchildren are being left to run around the streets because they have no schools to go to to learn and both their parents are often working.

Would he invitee the TUC to ask the teachers to go back to work so that this matter can be discussed in a more peaceful and quiet atmosphere without the dangers and stresses that are taking place in many towns and cities? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—I am constantly being asked to pass moral strictures from the dispatch box. I am *not sure how much good they do.*

The teachers have referred this matter to arbitration and it was always a principle when I was a trade union negotiator that when a matter had been referred to arbitration you waited for the verdict bof the aritrators before you took action.

Cup final tickets

Mr Walter Johnson (Derby, South, Lab) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would refer to the rice Commission the proposed increase in charges by the Football Association for the Cup Final in 1978, *bearing in mind that the charges* increased by 39 per cent in 1975.

Mr Robert Maclennan, Under Secretary, in a written reply, said: Under the rice Commission Act, 1977, it is for the commission to decide whether it wishes to investigate increases in prices

Injunctions against state agencies

House of Lords

During the committee stage of the State Immunity Bill, the object of which is to restrict the immunity which sovereign states can claim *from the jurisdictin of civil courts* and tribunals in the United Kingdom, **Lord Wilberforce** moved an amendment to Clause 14 (Other procedural privileges) to enable injunctions to be issued against stateproperty used for commercial purposes.

He said it was an important part of the armoury of British courts that they should be able to grant injunctions in suitable cases against the property of a state or *state agency*.

It was important that if the courts were to have jurisdiction over assets used for commercial purposes and to be able to lay hands on them at the suit of a British company that in a suitable case they should be able to grant an injunction.

Lord McCluskey, Solicitor General for Scotland, said that remedies of a personal nature like injunctions were not appropriate against states. Nevertheless, the poont would be reconsidered in the light of what Lord Wilberforce had said.

The amendment was withdrawn.

The committee stage was completed.

Commission's 2pc farm price increase supported

European Parliament

Strasbourg

MPs voted for a 2 per cent average increase in the support prices for farmers throughout the European Economic Community in accordance with the suggestion of the EEC Commission.

The Parliament's Agriculture Committee had called for a 5 per cent increase, although its rapporteur, Mr Mark Hughes (Durham, Lab) had yesterday, in presenting its report, said he favoured an increase of only 2 per cent.

But the Parliament also demanded no increase in support prices for those products in surplus—mainly beef, milk and sugar. The Commission had not sought such a freeze.

Parliament's opinion and the Commission's proposals will come before the Council of Ministers in April when the final price package for agricultural support prices for 1978-79 will be decided.

The 2 per cent increase will mean more than 5 per cent for British farmers and probably more than 10 per cent when green pound adjustments are taken into account.

Mr John Corrie (North Ayrshire and Bute, C), resuming the debate on farm prices for 1978-79, said it was difficult for anyone not in the agricultural industry to understand its problems.

It was different from the industrial world. You could not throw a switch off on Friday night and throw it back on again on Monday morning. It was a 365-day a year job, especially for the small farmer. It was a long-term industry with a three to five-year cycle and farmers could not change from one product to another quickly.

Inflation had had a vicious effect on farmers. They had no control over what they produced or over their incomes. Politicians decided and at the end of the day politicians decided on their standard of living.

Increases in farm incomes over the past few years had been brought about by increased efficiency and productivity. This had been forced on farmers by increased costs and prices had been held down. Over the past 10 years agricultural output had increased by 20 per cent but current policies were penalising the efficient by propping up the inefficient.

The problem was that if they increased prices they would increase the surpluses. But if they kept prices down farmers would simply increase output to increase their incomes and therefore still increase surpluses.

Cost intervention had not given the housewife cheap food. Something like 40 per cent of the CAP funds went on intervention. He wondered what the effect would be on the surpluses if these millions of pounds were used to cut the cost of food.

Mr Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn, Scot Nat) said she supported the call for a 5 per cent increase. Britain's transitional period ended on January 1 and since then British farmers had got further behind other EEC farmers. The CAP had certainly not ensured an adequate income for the family farm and in her area the family farm was the most important unit in the industry.

Farmers had to have confidence for long-term growth and although short-term considerations of consumers were understandable, in the end they might face even higher price rises.

Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, Commissioner for Agriculture, said the Commission would shortly be laying a regulation for a sheep meat regime which would secure free movement of sheep meat within the Community and assist the poorer areas.

Three major issues had been raised during the debate—prices, surpluses and the need for the abolition of monetary compensatory amounts. Much had been said about the need for a 5 per cent increase in farm prices, but they had to consider other factors such as green rate changes and increases in the unit of account.

Even with only a 2 per cent rise farmers in the United Kingdom, France and Italy would all get more than 5 per cent; in Ireland they would get less but they had recently had considerable price increases due to green rate devaluations and they might get more of those.

In the "snake" countries, the strengths of the currencies meant that import prices had fallen for such things as energy and their costs had thus risen less than in other countries. It was logical that their prices should rise

Government reject Muslim demands

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab) asked the Home Secretary whether as the leaders of the one million Muslims in Great Britain were demanding changes in the law to enable Muslim men to practise their beliefs and actions on the question of divorce and the inheritance rights and on other matters, he would publish his letter to Dr Syed Pasha, General Secretary of the Union of Muslim organizations on their demands and whether he would agree to meet representatives of the organization to discuss these demands.

Mr Brynmor John, Minister of State, in a written reply, said—I have told Dr Syed Aziz Pasha that I *will be happy to meet a deputation* from his organization, and have suggested a preliminary meeting at official level, to discuss specific points they may wish to raise.

I have, however, made it clear that the Government could not support the union's proposal for incorporating into the law of England and Wales Muslim law as a whole or for any general statutory recognition of Islam and its traditions. *I await his reply.*

I shall not, however, publish the correspondence which the Home Secretary and I have had with Dr Pasha.

Damage to livestock suffered by farmers

Mr John Silkin, Minister culture, Fisheries and F he hoped to be able to g information before Eas help to farmers who hav stock in the winter storm

Mr Roger Moate (Fare had asked what recent Mr Silkin had had with dent of the NFU on ass farmers who suffered h recent floods and storms

Mr Silkin—I have had with the President of th February 20 and March we discussed various way farmers who have suf might be helped, incl union's readiness to method of self-help by th and their request for a G contribution.

I am now giving urgent consideration to the information coming t the extend of the damag

Mr Moate—Is consider being given specifically farmers who have lost h the West country, Scotl the East coast, and, if so he come to a decision needed urgently by Cera

Mr Silkin—I have a gre sympathy for the farme that I might be able t House some further i following consideration before the Easter recess promise. I am doing

Mr Robin Corbett (Ba stead, Lab)—When he the President of the N raise allegations that o there has been serious tem overstocking th winter on areas which mally never been used period for livestock?

Mr Silkin—If Mr Corbe details, this is a matter interested in, particul relevance to the Porch mittee's views on how with areas in which the a national environmenta

Mr Peter Mills (West D Farmers are concerned given special help whic concern other people in west who have been well, such as shopkeepe and petrol people. *farmers want is* more fr capital grants and help rebuild their buildings concerned about the special cases. It is not want.

Mr Silkin—He might farmers who were not being made a special speaking in Kent to a meeting and I met a farmers who disagree be made special cases.

Is not this the differ case of damage to factories or houses, damage is insurable, b the damage suffered by uninsurable?

Mr Dennis Skinner (B *Lab)*—*Now that the Ca* monetarists and mi tionists, are asking th ment to bail our som constituents, will he n request made two years gales hit Nottingham Derbyshire? If a prece in respect of West I other places, will he giv something will be others?

Mr Silkin—I would like simple meteorological sometimes there are we ters in Great Britain United Kingdom, and time, if we can do it, o basis on which the E help itself by looking to *I would like to deal wit* rather than go too far past.

Next week's business

The main business in t Commons next week w

Monday: Proceedings Consolidated Fund Bill.

Tuesday: Motion on ments on Agriculture P sals on Milk and on Me Agriculture and Wine.

Wednesday: Debate on cal eInquiry Report. EE Cdocument on Cyp

Thursday: Easter a debates.

The main business in t Lords next week will be

Monday: Shipbuilding dancy Payments) Bill. ing. Civil Aviation Bill stages: Debate on farm the Milk Marketing Boa

Tuesday: Motion to a vention of Terrorism Provisions) Act, 1976. Order. Employment Su second reading. Soci Pensions (Home Re and Miscellaneous A Regulations. Prayer B of Laity) Bill.

Wednesday: Debate on *dations of Committee* Abnormal Offenders. sale of arms to China.

Thursday: Consolidate all stages. Employme Bill, third reading. Measures Act orders textiles and floor cove restriction on imperial Immunity Bill, re Security regulations. export of live farm ani

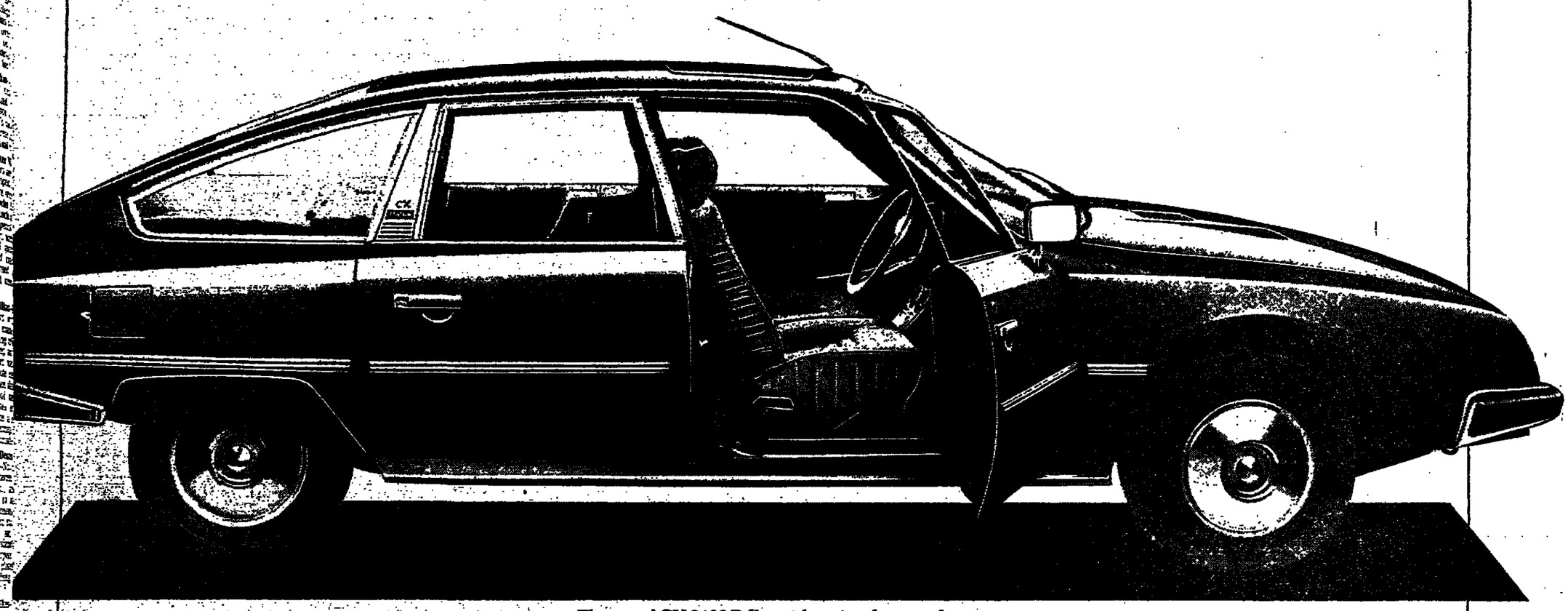
Parliamentary

House of Commons

Today at 11: Pri and government: Vote wage bargaining: natio

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CITROËN CX. A NICE PLACE TO GO HOME IN.



Illustrated CX 2400 Pallas with optional sun roof.

In a life increasingly dominated by schedules, deadlines, traffic jams, parking restrictions and general bureaucratic insanity, the Citroën CX brings a welcome release from the pressures of the day.

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As you'd expect, the fittings on such a car leave little to be desired. All considered, an extremely nice place to be. In a sea of chaos, an island of calm.

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CX 2400 Super (5 speed)	112 mph	£5427·63
CX 2400 Pallas Injection (C-matic)	112 mph	£6597·63
CX 2400 GTi (5 speed, Injection)	118 mph	£6580·08
CX 2400 Safari Estate	109 mph	£5575·05
CX 2400 Familiale	109 mph	£5678·01
CX Prestige Injection (C-matic)	112 mph	£8640·45

CITROËN CX. A WORLD OF COMFORT.

CITROËN CX

Bernard Levin

When one man's meat is the same man's poison

The 1978 edition of the Good Food Guide is the worst yet; Mr Christopher Driver's apparent determination to turn it into the *Take-Away Kebab House and Rather Nasty Trattoria Guide* is a stage nearer fulfilment.

Tastes differ: there is almost no restaurant in this country which is really consistent in its performance, and no doubt some diners have had horrid experiences where I have had only good ones, and vice versa. Nor, of course, is the possession of a great name and history any guarantee of present excellence. But I find it impossible to take seriously a guide to good eating which, in its London section, omits *all* of these; *the White Tower*, A L'Ecu de France, the Mirabelle, La Napoule, the Savoy Grill, Carrier's, Fu Tong, the Gavlord, the Trattoo, the Cafe Royal, Tiberio, the Mumtaz, the Dorchester Terrace, Fuji, Le Poulbot, Claridge's, the Shezan, Walton's, Gennaro's and Don *Luigi. Is it seriously to be* supposed that *none* of these is fit to be included in a book which gives its seal of approval to a restaurant of which the entry says "point very carefully to the menu when ordering, do not expect everyone to get their food simultaneously, and perhaps sit at the counter to forestall oversights"? Or the one of which the book mentions "packaged ham in the veal *Cordon Bleu*" and "plates cold, meals greasy"? Or "shabby, witlessly laid out menus . . . *complex sauces are best* avoided"? Or ". . . moussaka has been 'heavy', stuffed vine leaves 'best without the sauce' and pheasant 'dry'"? Or "soft and watery vegetables, 'stew-like' boeuf au vin, 'ice-hard' sorbet"? Or "soft drinks only"? Or "chips were the *only type of potato to be had*"? Or "many dishes could do with blotting to remove superfluous oil"? Or "puddings might well be worse"? Or "tea dark brown and tannic"? Or "refined fish and chip shop"? Or "some of the wines listed may be out of stock or not *worth listing*"? Or "*there was* more bone than fish in the mackerel curry"? Or "fully licensed but with only one wine"? Or "for a hamburger joint, 8½ out of 10"? Or "find a loo elsewhere"? Or "poor cooking or recipes, and carelessly kept surroundings"? Or "tasteless old potatoes *and* peas"? Is the Mirabelle really unfit to share a page with those?

The obvious conclusion is that Mr Driver, when it comes to food and wine, doesn't know what he is talking about. The obvious conclusion, however, would be quite wildly wrong; Mr Driver knows a very great deal about serious eating and drinking, and over a remarkably wide variety of cuisines. The trouble lies not in his palate, but in, of all things, his conscience, not to mention the *consciences of his wife and* mother.

In a *Sunday Times* profile of Mr Driver a year or two ago, there were some very revealing passages about the conflict within Mr Driver between his strongly held radical Christian beliefs and his work in "guzzling excellent and often expensive food in rather pleasant surrounding". Of this conflict *his mother* is quoted as saying "I do sometimes feel guilty about him", and his wife, a social worker dealing with handicapped children, goes a good deal further:

"I feel Christopher shouldn't be doing this", she says. "I get this terrible hang-up, because I have to tell families how to screw out an extra pound. And we are eating meals which cost £10 a head. I do feel guilty spending in restaurants."

She also "feels strongly about the contrast between the expensive eating which is part of her husband's job and the modest way they live:

"This is the irony. We have these expensive meals. But it isn't as if we have a vast amount of wealth."

To put it in terms which even Mr Auberon Waugh might think in bad taste, how can you sit opposite a woman like that in an expensive restaurant and enjoy your food? The answer, I take it, is that Mr Driver loves his wife, and anyway, it is he who edits the book, not she. But it is clear that it is *Mr Driver's own conscience*, and not just his womenfolk, which is constantly telling him or his subconscious *that what he is doing for* a living is wrong. He rationalizes it stoutly. He



Christopher Driver

thinks about it a lot. But he comes to the conclusion it's a fruitful contradiction. "It's a fruitful tension. Having this undercurrent of Christian radicalism means I'm less likely to go along with the chi-chi, expense-account big-spending type of restaurant. It's obvious that there are a vast number of people in the world who haven't got enough to eat, and there's also a tiny number who are, rightly, incensed about what they have got".

Such statements make the Drivers *admirable citizens*, and Mr Driver's own record—Friends' Ambulance Unit, board member of Christian Aid, *official historian of CND—is all* of a piece (though when it goes to the lengths of the plaque on the door of his home reading "This is a No Smoking house—Put it out". I am reminded that Savonarola was finally burnt at the stake, and a thundering good thing too). The question, however, is not whether Mr Driver is a good man—if that *were* the question *the answer* would clearly be yes—but whether he really should be editing the *Good Food Guide*. And it is not only the bizarre exclusions and even more bizarre inclusions that make me raise the question.

For there is also Mr Driver's attitude, as silly as it is nasty, that if you are rich you cannot possibly know or care about what you are eating and drinking. The typical patron of the Gavroche, for instance, is, according to Mr Driver, a "rich vulgarian" (the two words seem inseparable in his mind), and his hatred of this restaurant, which runs through its entry every year, seems to be the product of the irreconcilable conflict in his mind; the *Gavroche is very expensive*, and it *is very* good, and because Mr Driver is too honest to pretend that it is bad and too Puritanical not to be furious at its prices, the result is an annual snarl of outrage.

And that, I suspect, is what is at the bottom of the more foolish omissions. Mr Driver would certainly never leave out a restaurant to punish it for being expensive; but with his *beliefs it is inevitable that*, however objective he is when weighing up favourable and adverse reports, he is subconsciously predisposed against such places. (He is also both foolish and unpleasant about his book's chief rival, the *Egon Ronay Guide*; Mr Driver's Preface to his own 1978 edition contains two wholly gratuitous insults—a reference to those who "cannot tell Ronay from butter" and another to food-guides which "seek sponsors in some flush branch of the motor industry". The *Ronay Guide*, *though it, too, is not wholly* reliable, is now clearly the Better Buy of the two, possibly because Mr Ronay spends less time worrying about starving Asians and more time getting on with his own job. Mr Driver's chances of Heaven are no doubt greater than Mr Ronay's, but most people buy food guides for gastronomic rather than theological purposes.)

The Good Food Guide, over the years, has done immeasurable good in improving the standards of British eating and drinking. But Raymond Postgate, its founder, who was at least as good a socialist as his successor, never made his successor's mistake of believing that enjoying the good things of life is sinful. Mr Driver seems to find it increasingly difficult to reconcile his work as editor with his beliefs as Gandhian Christian. That, in my view, does him great credit. But it also seems to me to suggest that it is time he considered relinquishing the post.

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Italy's new breed of bodysnatchers

The kidnapping of Aldo Moro, leader of the Christian Democratic Party, on his way to work yesterday morning in Rome has undoubtedly appalled the Italian public. But it *may* startle the rest of Europe even more in that Italy is fast becoming inured to dramas of this kind. Hardly a day now passes without reports of political shootings or kidnappings. Over 2,000 separate incidents of political terrorism were recorded *last year; since 1970* some 300 people have officially been kidnapped. But the real figure is certainly higher.

The Moro kidnapping, coming as it does at a moment of political tension, cannot fail to have enormous implications. Because of this, and because of the way in which it was carried out it is enormously tempting to compare it to the Schleyer case. But the Italian setting is important, and the way in which kidnapping has developed there in the last 12 years.

The finger of blame for yesterday's kidnapping would point to the Red Brigades, even had they not already claimed responsibility. Forty of their members have been awaiting trial in Turin for more than two years for acts of terrorism, a trial constantly postponed as fresh attacks have effectively scared away potential jurors and lawyers. The kidnapping of Moro may be a final bid to free the accused.

It would not be the first Red Brigade kidnapping. Up until the spring of 1972 this group of young, mostly middle class students who, broadly, believe that Italy's economic crisis presents an opportunity for a revolutionary seizing of power, confined their attacks to property. They burnt cars, planted bombs, set fire to factories. *On March 3, 1972, they* turned to people: the first man they took was the director of the the Sit-Siemens factory in *Milan*: Idalgo Macchiarini. They kept him half an hour, driving him around the city in a lorry while they photographed him with a pistol at his head.

Macchiarini was the first of what the Italian police call the "educational" political kidnappings. Several more industrialists were then taken in the north, and they were all returned unscathed, if scared. Then came the Sossi kidnapping in 1974. Mario Sossi was deputy public prosecutor in Genoa, a man known for his tough line against terrorism. The Red Brigades held him for a month, then let him go in return for a promise that eight companions would be released from jail. They acted too soon. Francesco Coco, chief public prosecutor, overthrew the agreement. *In reprisal he was shot* dead.

Since then several other magistrates have been either *killed or injured, though* certainly not all were victims of the Red Brigades. The extreme right have done their share of *the violence. And so have the* broadly Marxist Napolitain group, the Armed Proletarian Nuclei, who actually started with a kidnapping, when the £45,000 ransom for Antonio Gargiulo in 1974 provided them with the cash to buy arms and set up safe houses.

Political kidnappings of this kind, however, are rare—perhaps 2 per cent of all cases. Police throughout Italy now seem to agree that kidnappers today belong very loosely to three main categories.

There are the Sardinians, shepherds who came to the Abruzzi mountains and to Tuscany in the late sixties in search of work and who brought with them a new crime much in vogue in their wild and impenetrable mountain ranges: kid*napping. The shepherds* have their particular hallmark. Their victims are treated much like sheep, kept on the move up and down the mountains, and subjected at times to extreme brutality.

There are the Sicilians and Calabrians, the "Mafiosi" who in the *early seventies felt* that they were losing hold on big money on their island: building contracts were temporarily suspended by the economic situation, the traffic in drugs and cigarettes was shifting towards Marseilles and Corsica. The Mafia needed cash. So they moved north, either voluntarily or in what turned out to be one of the most ill-judged of all penal measures—the "soggiorno *obbligato*" in which suspected criminals were sent away from the scene of their activities. It was, as one Milanese magistrate said to me recently: "Like sending a mouse away from a piece of cheese and into a granary."

In the industrial north the Mafiosi soon moved into two most profitable new seams: prostitution and kidnapping. Their stamp is efficient organization, a willingness to wait almost indefinitely, and a certain humanity towards their hostages. Those Mafiosi victims *who* have died seem to have been killed in error—over-drugged, or because they saw too much.

Finally there are the criminal gangs, groups who once robbed banks, and have now jumped onto the profitable new bandwagon. Just how profitable it is was illustrated to me by one policeman in Milan. Ransoms, he said, have amounted to about £67m in five years. It would take 80 years to make that by robbing banks.

Moro is exceptional in that kidnap victims are almost invariably *industrialists*—*builders*, jewellers, car manufacturers. There is hardly a rich Italian family that has not been hit. *Businessmen fear promotion* just as they have long since abandoned their fast cars and mink coats.

Not surprisingly, the protection business booms. Some 1,000 people are thought to be guarded by what Italians refer to as their "gorillas" or "guardian angels". Very few of them are officially protected by the police—and, as the Moro *and Schleyer cases show, guards* are of little use when the kidnappers are determined enough.

Karate and judo classes are completely booked out; specially bullet-proof cars are on a waiting list; 36,000 guard dogs were sold in 1975 alone.

None of this, not the protection, nor the new stiffer penalties for kidnapping, nor the blocking of assets (the ransom money is merely borrow from friends), seems to have the slightest effect. Kidnapping is growing. And it will go on doing so, say magistrates, until there is a fundamental change in the nature of Italian society itself. A new, highly trained, coordinated police structure is crucial; (at the moment three forces work separately) and there is some minimum cooperation from banks (the ransom money that does not go *straight into* sheep, land or building flows virtually unchecked over the borders). But it is not until the *life of the victim is made* secondary to stopping the kidnappers that the crime itself can hope to be checked.

Caroline Moorehead

The big names who are France's 'gang of four'

Most people in France remember the television impact made *in 1969 by M Jacques Duclos*, the communist candidate to the presidency, and the historic debate in 1974 between M *Valery Giscard d'Estaing and M* François Mitterrand, which probably tipped the scales in the President's favour.

The present election campaign has been no exception. The stage—or rather the screen—has been monopolized by what the French call the "sacred monsters" of politics, the leaders of the big parties. Even marginal parties without the least hope of winning a seat have put up the required number of candidates merely to be given a chance to make their existence known to the public through television. And the telegenic qualities of this or that political leader count far more with the average voter than policies and programmes.

As it is, the leaders of the "gang of four", Messrs Barre, Chirac, Marchais and Mitterrand, as M Michel Jobert rather disparagingly calls it, has dominated both the political scene and the campaign. M Giscard d'Estaing, as President of the Republic, is in a class apart.

Undoubtedly, the revelation of the current election campaign has been **M GEORGES MARCHAIS**, the Secretary General of the Communist Party. *He has succeeded in fascinat*ing even voters who could not be more remote from Marxism and all its works by his force *of personality, and his histri*onic (in the etymological sense) gifts.

This is no small achievement. Only a few months ago, he was adversely compared by the man in the street to his apparently more benign predecessor, M Waldeck-Rochet; with his glaring eyes, and dark bushy eyebrows, his stub nose, his square combative jaw, and his almost permanent scowl, he was al*most the caricature of "the* man with the knife between his teeth", as the communist bogey used to be described.

But he learnt how to get rid of his aggressiveness, to clothe his formidable gifts as a debater in a sort of bantering bonhomie.

M Georges Marchais was born in 1920, in Normandy, the son of a worker, who was also a bit of an anarchist, his son has said. When he was 10, his father died, and he was brought up by his mother, a practising Roman Catholic. He did well at school and thought at one time of becoming a teacher. But he was drawn towards aircraft construction.

He became a qualified mechanic, and just before the war joined an aircraft construction firm near Paris. One of the episodes in his life which remains in the shade is how he came to work in the Messer-Schmidt plant in Bavaria in 1942. He has always maintained that he was drafted compulsorily by the Germans.

The next few years of his life are rather obscure. He claims he got leave to go to France, went underground and joined the resistance movement. He entered the Communist Party *at the age of 27 in 1947*. Two years later, he was a part-time member of the party branch for the Seine. Then he became *full-time secretary of the Metal* Workers' Union of Issy, near Paris. The same year he joined the central committee. In 1959, only 12 years after joining its ranks, he was a deputy member of the political bureau, the supreme organ of the party.

He was until then almost exclusively an "apparatchik", who had little contact with the world outside the party, and none with political circles; and had the reputation of being an orthodox hard liner. In 1970 he rose to the heights of deputy.

During the next three years *and even more so after 1973*, when he became titular secretary-general, he was to preside over the most far-reaching transformation of French communism which brought about the split of the French left.

He was certainly the driving force behind the policy which led to the union of the left with the socialists in 1972. He also imposed on his party the ideological about-face involved in the abandonment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

M Georges Marchais has repeatedly shown his tactical ability to change the party line when its higher interests were at stake. Last September, his tough stand on nationalization brought about a split with the socialists which seemed definitive, and an unrelenting barrage of accusations and innuendo was poured out against M Mitterrand and his erstwhile allies in subsequent months. But a few days ago, he did another about-face, *and with surprising ease* agreed to a spectacular reconciliation with them and the left-wing radicals. He can claim that *his tactics have succeeded in* checking the socialist advance.

By comparison with Georges Marchais **M FRANCOIS MITTERRAND** *is a rather elusive* personality. Yet he has been around in politics longer than any of the leading personalities, and even the lesser stars. He had a conventional religious education, studied law in Paris, was called up for military service, captured after the collapse of France, joined the resistance movement and founded a network of his own while appearing to serve the Vichy regime.

It was the start of a long line of calumnies and innuendo with which he has had to contend throughout his political life. But at the liberation of France, he became a deputy for the Nievre, a seat he has held for more than 30 years and was *made a junior minister by* General de Gaulle at the age of 27. He was to hold office 11 times in seven years under the Fourth Republic, *as one of the* founders of the UDSR, a left-wing social democratic splinter group in the Assembly.

He refused to endorse the constitution of the Fifth Republic, and rose to public notoriety when he stood as a candidate for the presidency against General de Gaulle in 1965.

The Gaullist landslide in the elections of 1968 reduced his popularity almost to nil. But he resumed the long pains-taking ascent which was to lead to the reorganization of the Socialist Party in 1971.

The rapid growth of the Socialist Party, the welding and holding together of its traditional social democratic and new Marxist elements required a firm hand. M Mitterrand has often been accused both within his party and in the left of dictatorial behaviour. But without him, the new Socialist Party would probably have fallen.

Nothing could be in greater contrast with the make-up of the personality of **M JACQUES CHIRAC**, who during the marathon speech-making campaign which in three months has carried him through more than 500 public meetings, and has *consolidated his public image* of action man.

He became Prime Minister in May, 1974, aged 41, one of the youngest *this country has* known, the climax—but it is only for him a foothill leading to the summit of the Presidency of the Republic—of a meteoric political career.

His attachment to M Pompidou's personal staff determined his future career. It also explains why he has retained a very moving, almost filial worship for the memory of France's much misjudged second president. *He was sent out into the* wilds of central France, in 1967, as one of a band of "young wolves" to conquer this bastion of the left for the Gaullist Party, and succeeded. He was made a junior minister the same year, and a senior one four years later.

He played a key part in the election and consolidation of what has often been described as the Sixth Republic, first with the election of President Giscard d'Estaing, by swinging the Gaullist Party to his side away from M Chaban-Delmas, the former Premier; and then with the reorganization of his own dispirited and divided party.

But in the meantime, M Chirac had abruptly parted company with President Giscard d'Estaing, with whose policies, mainly in the defence field and taxation, he did not agree, but largely because of a clash of personalities.

The consolidation of the Gaullist Party under his command, success in his keeping together in the fold both its conservative middle class elements, and of its popular fringe and in upholding its position as the largest party of the government majority are impressive.

He has responded skilfully to the yearning of a large number of his countrymen for law and order. Under his influence, Gaullism has become even more Bonapartist in character than it was before, combining the state authority, national independence with popular approval and progress.

Jacques Chirac is often accused by his enemies of being a "fascist". The charge is unjustified. In private, he is an extremely likeable, friendly, straightforward man. In public, he can appear blunt, arrogant, and excessively sure of himself. What is certain is that he has no time for soul-searchings, doubts, or hesitations.

M RAYMOND BARRE is a very different type of individual. He as almost unknown in political circles when he became Prime Minister, in succession to M Chirac, in August, 1976, though he has held office for eight months as Minister for Foreign Trade, and carried out several confidential missions for the government before that.

He was born in 1924 and became a professor of economics in 1950. He has taught ever since, until he was *called to the premiership.*

It is important in assessing the personality and politics of M Barre to remember his deep *admiration for General de* Gaulle, and his attachment to the constitution of the Fifth Republic, though he has never *joined the Gaullist Party.*

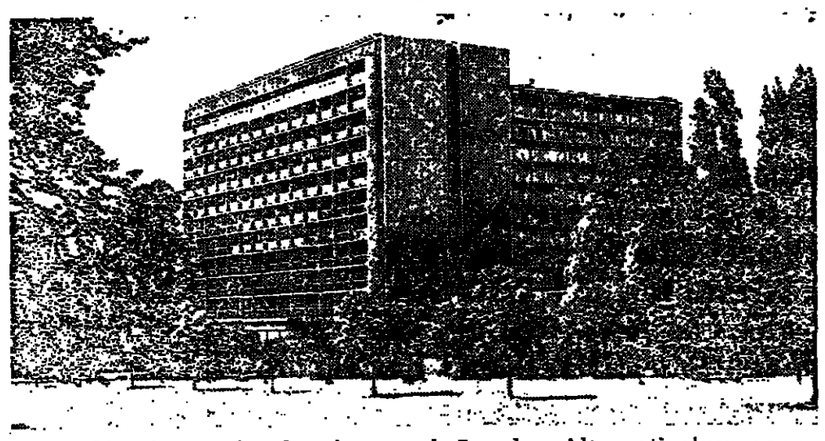
He has never courted popularity, or shied from telling his fellow countrymen the truth, however unpalatable. And he insisted for months that he was not a politician.

At first his fellow countrymen were rather disconcerted by this Prime Minister who refused to act like a politician. The drawing rooms and lobbies scoffed. But the "deep France" of the grass roots, and the provinces, were comforted and reassured. His triumphal election at Lyons, where he stood for parliament last week, is a demonstration of his growing popularity.

Like all successful Prime Ministers of the Fifth Republic, he must some times entertain the idea that he could make a bid for the Elysée Palace. But those circumstances would obviously be different from those in which M Chirac would have his chance.

Charles Hargrove

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THE TIMES DIARY/ PHS

The Indian judge is named as Miss Black

A BBC radio programme, *Inquest on a Novel*, to be broadcast next Saturday, casts doubt on claims to authenticity made for a minor classic first published in 1934, reprinted 14 times, and twice broadcast by the BBC.

The book is *Letters of an Indian Judge to an English Gentlewoman*, which does not carry an author's credit because, says a publishers' note "they were not written with a view to *publication*". The woman in question is the wife of an English colonel, living in India during the last days of the Raj.

A *paperback edition* is to be published later this month, and it carries a publishers' preface saying that they have satisfied themselves that the letters in the book are genuine.

The BBC Radio 4 programme will say that investigations preface have revealed that the identity of the author has now been established. She is named as Dorothy Delius Black, writer of 82 light novels, who died last year at *the age of 78*.

The BBC's findings are challenged in the programme by Rosemary De Courcy, editor at Future Publications Ltd, who are bringing out the paperback. She says she has compared the book with others known to have been written by Miss Black and she finds it impossible to believe they were all written by the same person.

In the *Author's and Writer's Who's Who*, Miss Black is listed as the author of *Letters of an Indian Judge to an English Gentlewoman*.

"Continental cress—English", says the wrapper for a food product obtainable from Marks and Spencer.



The out-casts

Somebody at the Penthouse Club, the adults-only leisure centre in Whitehorse Street, W1, does not know his/her Dickens. Otherwise, he/she would not have sent honorary membership cards to all the principals in the cast of *Oliver!* at the Albery—including the four lads, aged 11 to 13, who alternate in the roles of Oliver and the Artful Dodger.

The club sent the tickets after receiving copies of the programme for *Oliver!* "I suppose we just didn't realize that Oliver and the Dodger were aged under 21", said an embarrassed young lady.

When he received his card, one of the two Dodgers, Colin Morgan, went to the company manager, inquired what the Penthouse Club was and asked could he go. The harsh facts of life were duly explained to him.

In the know, but not officially

In the know but not officially—Diplomats have always been contemptuous of journalists, and not only because of old-world elitist attitudes. They also appear to believe that only the elect who have access to official files can possibly know what really happens.

Not so in Rhodesia, although it is probably the most important *item on Dr Owen's agenda*. Apart from occasional diplomatic initiatives, the only official British representative in Salisbury is a very junior Foreign and Commonwealth Office clerk.

He lives in the faded splendour of the old governor's residence, but has no contact, official or non-official, with the Smith government. His only sources of information are the local press and radio and visiting foreign correspondents.

Presumably, Dr Owen thought he was well served, but my colleagues in southern Africa have learnt that unnamed British and *American officials will meet* representatives of the Smith government in South Africa today. They feel that they have enough to do keeping their paying readers informed without doing the donkey work for the FCO.

It's too late for that cottage

I recently wrote about the difficulty of booking holiday cottages in France, where the Government tourist office has had to close its embarrassingly lengthy waiting list. I now find that such difficulties are not unknown in Britain either.

Having just received the *AA Guide to Holiday Houses, Cottages and Chalets* (£1.95), I phoned round to see what was *still available so comparatively* late in the booking season. The answer would seem to be: next to nothing.

I made eight calls before finding any vacancy at all between May and October. None of the 12 property owners or agencies I phoned, covering some 50 entries in the book, could offer anything at all for the school summer holidays.

What use, I asked the AA, can such a guide be, published at this time of year? "There is a danger that some of the places will be booked up whenever the book is published", they said. "The shortage of *this* type of accommodation might partly result from the success of our last such guide, published in November 1976. We think the book could still be very useful to out-of-season weekend trippers—or for 1979."

You might have thought Jack Jones would have cleared the decks yesterday so that he could go to the Palace and be invested with the CH without having anything else tugging away at his mind. But that is not the Jones way of doing things. Before going to the Palace he was at his desk in Transport House. Then he joined a TUC delegation that called on Dr Owen. That over, he was off to an International Transport Federation conference. The CH business interrupted his flow of words about low-paid seamen but, back from the Palace, he soon picked up the current again, as if nothing unusual had happened to him.

Small wonder



A small sensation seems a good way to describe the interest aroused when a waistcoat once worn by "General" Tom Thumb, the 19th century show business phenomenon, came up for auction at Phillips's on March 2. It was bought for £130 by the Theatre Museum.

There will, I predict, be a bigger sensation on April 7 when an entire suit belonging to the little fellow is to go under the hammer, at a Bonham's collectors sale. The trousers in my photograph measure exactly 15½ inches.

I have unearthed the fact that the trousers were left for framing at a shop in Perth about the middle of the last century, when the midget visited Britain.

They were not, however, worn by the fully-grown Tom Thumb. He is thought to have inhabited them when he was six, and when he was all of 26 inches tall.

Bonham's believe the suit should raise about £400. I bet the Theatre Museum can't wait to get its hands on it.

There is a butcher's shop in Mitcham, Surrey, run by Cain Brothers.

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES
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THE CHALLENGE OF TERROR

kidnapping of Signor Moro e most direct assault on the e of political power which Italian terrorists have yet rtaken. Signor Moro is the ly respected leader of the ry's governing party and a ng candidate for the presi- y. His fate must have a per impact on the public on politics than the tragic ogue of shootings, murders idnappings with which Italy become familiar in recent There will be great athy for him personally at and abroad. There will be great concern for the *now* facing such a direct enge.

is easy enough to see this of terrorism as directly d to other symptoms of s decline, yet last year, with idnapping of Dr Schleyer, ilar challenge faced West any, which is not in decline ll. Admittedly the two ries have certain problems common, such as over- ed universities, substan- nemployment, a section of ndly alienated youth, and thering of power in the e which leaves the outer ps of opposition without an ized party to contain them. these are among factors ht to contribute to terror- But there are also differ- too obvious to mention. is specifically Italian in case is not the act itself s motives but the back- d against which it takes country is severely de- ized and politically para- Law and order have been ly crumbling. Political ex- m has been increasing on ft and the right. Murders idnappings go undetected unpunished. The economy is in great difficulties. Yet the politicians are unable to get an effective government together. The new arrangement between the Christian Democrats and the Communists is at best a temporary improvization. After very wearisome negotiations the Communists dropped their demand for full participation in a government of national emergency and agreed merely to vote for the Government instead of abstaining. They also agreed to a programme which included not only more government investment in housing and agriculture but also items considerably less familiar to the left, such as wage restraint, tax increases, curbs on pensions and more powers for the police. Taking a small step towards power they took a large one away from their ideological roots.

Even this is not enough to allay the worries of the right wing Christian Democrats. Therefore the first overt political reaction to the kidnapping of Signor Moro was not a closing of ranks but the hesitant mixture as before. Even such a profound challenge seems insufficient to cause any basic change in the situation. This is not so much the fault of individual politicians as of the alignment of forces as it now stands. Understandably, the right-wing Christian Democrats do not want this incident to be used as an excuse for bringing the Communists more fully into power than is absolutely necessary. There is not the elasticity that there is in Bonn, where the Opposition could join the Government in coping with one specific challenge and then pull away again to resume its normal role.

The question therefore remains open whether public demand for new and firmer action will benefit the Communists or not. One school of thought still sees their full participation in government as essential to any really authoritative new start. Another sees it as the gateway to more trouble in that it could split the Christian Democrats, provoke the extreme right, undermine foreign confidence and perhaps further inflame the extreme left, which already claims to have been betrayed by the Communist Party.

If there were any personality on the scene with the stature of a national saviour this would probably be his moment but (perhaps fortunately) there is not. For the present it looks as if the familiar faces in their familiar positions will have to cope. No doubt they will have in mind the West German experience. When Herr Lorenz, the Christian Democratic leader in Berlin, was kidnapped he was exchanged for the release of terrorists from prison. These terrorists then went on to kill more people. The bitter lesson was learnt and last year Dr Schlever died after the demands of his kidnappers had been rejected.

But there is also another and newer lesson from that incident, which is that Herr Schleyer might have lived if the police had been more efficient and more willing to cooperate among themselves. A vital tip was not passed on to the right quarter. The Italian police are in an infinitely worse state of organization. There are things which even the present Government ought to be capable of doing not only to increase the chances of saving Signor Moro but also to lessen the chances of losing someone else.

YING FOR DISABILITY

present arrangements for nsating those who suffer or severe disability are pharard as to constitute a social injustice. This was ht to public attention most ently in the case of the omide children, but they no means the only ones to been affected. Different e are treated, in very ent ways according not the extent of their injury, to how it was caused. er it was the result of ne else's negligence, and whether that other person insured or can even be . This is the jumble that arson Royal Commission vil Liability and Compen- for Personal Injury has quired to sort out.

as done so by proposing principal reforms. There l be, the report suggests, "no-fault" compensation e for road accidents; an ved industrial injuries e with higher benefits and ng the self-employed, ters and the victims of occupational diseases than sent; and a new benefit ll severely handicapped n, whatever the cause of handicap. Together these s would involve a cant extension of the security system so that atic aid would be provided ose who under existing ements must depend upon able to sue someone for nce.

principle that must be It is absurd that someone d down by an uninsured st may get no more than dinary state sickness and y supplementary benefits, another person injured severely by an insured may receive large the need of the victim same in each case. the plight of the ide children did not upon whether or not the Distillers Company had been negligent. Their degree of need was not affected, and it is need that the social security system is designed to meet. That is the justification for recommending that social security should play a larger role in compensating for injury and disability.

But there is another requirement that ought to be satisfied as well: that those who are guilty of negligence should take their share of responsibility. That is provided for, more or less roughly, by the system of tort—action for damages in the courts. The extent to which negligence would be encouraged if the task of compensation were transferred entirely to the social security system may, indeed, be exaggerated. One is likely to be deterred from driving dangerously at least as much by the fear of killing oneself or incurring a criminal charge as by the risk of losing a no-claims bonus. But it is right that tort should be retained, in effect for the more serious cases. The commission would achieve this by offsetting improved social security benefits against any tort award. This would avoid the absurdity of double compensation for the same injury—so that it would be socially just—and would also mean that it would not be worth suing unless there were the prospect of substantial damages.

This marriage of the tort and *social security systems is one of* the most important features of the report. But whenever changes of some consequence are envisaged it is always necessary to ask whether there are hidden side-effects or unacceptable costs. There is one side-effect that quite properly worries the commission. There is the danger that total benefit levels would in some cases be high enough to be a disincentive to return to work. That would apply, of course, only to the partially disabled and only if entitlement depended upon loss of earnings rather than upon medical assessment of the degree of injury or handicap. The report unfortunately fudges that choice, but one can see why it does so. It would be much better to have medical assessment, but the practical obstacles —especially given the attitudes of doctors—are quite formidable. This should not, however, be a conclusive objection to the scheme. Of all those for whom the social security system may provide a disincentive to work, there is least need to be critical in the case of the disabled.

A more serious worry may be cost. The gross increase in annual social security costs after the scheme had been running for five years is estimated at £78m, rising to £130m after forty years. This would be offset by savings on tort payments for work and road injuries of nearly £90m a year, including savings on administration. There is thus a considerable difference in estimated gross and net costs. The majority of the commission assume that the tort savings would come through to the consumer in lower insurance premiums. But can one really be sure of that? The extra costs would certainly come through in one way or another —in higher contributions for employers and the self-employed, and in an extra penny on a gallon of petrol, if the majority of the commission have their way. There are the familiar objections to hypothecating a tax in this way, but a more serious anxiety must be whether the net figures in this report are a true indication of what the extra financial burden would be to companies and individuals. How far the country can afford a scheme that is broadly sound in principle, and desirable in general intent, must therefore be judged in the light of future economic conditions and rival claims upon public expenditure.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Israel's retaliation for PLO attack

From The Reverend The Lord Soper

Sir, It is saddening and depressing that even now, after 30 years of bitter hostility between Arabs and Jews, when at last there is a glimmer of hope that some move towards peace may be achieved, none of the Arab countries, apart from Egypt, saw fit to condemn the PLO's senseless and brutal murder of Israeli civilians. On the contrary, as David Hirst reported (March 14), the Arab states, endemically divided, were, on this occasion unanimous in their endorsement of the massacre which the PLO perpetrated on Saturday, March 11.

The PLO, by its own admission, has set out to destroy the peace talks between Egypt and Israel. But is an organization which can callously take innocent lives to achieve political aims, to be entrusted with the destiny of a people? In view of what happened on Saturday, March 11, one can perhaps understand better Israel's obstinacy in refusing to allow a PLO-dominated Palestinian state to be established.

Yours faithfully,
SOPER,
Kingsway Hall, WC2.
March 15.

From Mr T. P. O'Brien

Sir, One despairs of Israel. How else react to a country which does precisely what its enemy wishes, and precisely what its friends deplore.

Your truly,
T. P. O'BRIEN,
Innisfree,
Seal Square,
Selsey,
Sussex.

Monetary upheaval

From Lord Balogh

Sir, The basic cause of the present monetary upheaval is the unprecedented and unpalatable oil surplus of the desert oil countries. This has been between $25-45 billion pa and is unlikely to diminish substantially by accelerating their development because the imports of these countries cannot be increased without a grave threat to the nature of the present society and to political stability. As these surpluses must necessarily imply obverse deficits it is no use preaching to Britain, Italy or more recently the United States to "strengthen their currencies" or to "put their house in order". All that these grandiloquent sentences mean is that the deficits will be kicked from one country to another with ever increasing pressure on production and employment.

Very different is the case of the surpluses produced by Germany and Japan: these represent the export of unemployment from these two fully developed areas to the rest of the world. If for reasons (which remind one of the painful ignorance of 1931-33) these countries refuse to share the burden of the OPEC oil surpluses they should left to suffer an appreciation of their currencies until they are frozen out of the world markets of manufactures. Under no circumstances should they reap the reward of exchanging their dollar hoards into high yielding long-term loans. It is most unfortunate that the scarce currency clause of the IMF charter, which would have prescribed discriminating import quotas against persistent creditors, has not been invoked thus confirming its lapse.

Yours, etc.
THOMAS BALOGH,
Balliol College,
Oxford.

Repatriation of prisoners

From Freda Bruce Lockhart

Sir, Like your correspondent Elizabeth Barker (March 8) I remember, and only too painfully, the war years when *The Times* led the big battalions in pro-Soviet propaganda on a course supposedly plotted by E. H. Carr.

I appreciate the more the honorable amenda you lately made by your forthright exposure of the horrific story of our 1945 compulsory repatriation of prisoners of war to Russia. Particularly welcome is the recommendation in your leader (February 20) and correspondence columns for reforms in the publication of official records to facilitate the work of genuine historians. I have long been preoccupied by the question how it would ever be possible for the true diplomatic history of the war years to be written.

No doubt every specialist has a protective view of his own sphere. What I regarded as my sphere, where I had some very modest access to inside information, was the awful problem of Poland—in whose defence, as often seems forgotten—in television series on the outbreak of war, or in the BFI film *Before Hindsight*—we and France had declared war.

I have ever since been burdened by doubt how the truth could ever be told of the years leading down to Yalta when so many and such powerful interests were vested in truth not being told but concealed, stifled, perverted, contradicted or—as in the case of the repatriations —simply suppressed.

Yours faithfully,
FREDA BRUCE LOCKHART,
34 Holland Street, W8.

Accidents in operations

From Mrs Peregrine Worsthorne

Sir, I watched with mounting terror the BBC programme showing a series of children crippled for life through an accident or mistake while undergoing a small operation. Not only were the children deprived of any kind of normal life, but their families quite often ruined through trying to obtain damages—and money—essential for the lifelong, expensive treatment their helpless conditions required.

I'm myself due to have a small chirurgical intervention necessitating a general anaesthetic. Should I, for the sake of my relations if not my own, and can I obtain a particular insurance covering the eventuality of some "minor human error" on the part of the anaesthetist, surgeon or nurse?

Yours faithfully,
CLAUDIE WORSTHORNE,
6 Kempson Road, SW6.

South African policies and the West

From Mr Donald Woods

Sir, The South African government has spent a great deal of money on full-page advertisements in the British press designed to counteract my United Nations Security Council speech calling for economic sanctions against the apartheid regime.

These advertisements carry statements by selected black spokesmen officially recognized by the Vorster government—but the fact of their recognition as part of the apartheid structure devalues their argument against sanctions.

The majority of blacks in South Africa reject Bantustan leaders like Chief Buthelezi and Chief Sebe (Chief Buthelezi was even expelled from the funeral of Robert Sobukwe) and Mr Reddy and Mr Bergins, of the government-backed South African Indian Council and Coloured Council respectively, are political nonentities in black politics in South Africa. The real leaders of black South Africa (notably Luthuli, Mandela, Sobukwe and Biko) have consistently over the past two decades called for sanctions on the basis that consequent hardships to blacks through unemployment would be more than offset by the greater benefits accruing from such a blow against the economic structure of apartheid.

Apartheid depends greatly on economic support from the West by way of trade, investment and loans, and without such support the Vorster government would find it immensely more difficult to maintain its costly military and police establishments which are the two main prons of the apartheid edifice.

The crucial fact is that apartheid is deeply hated by more than 85 per cent of the South African people, and has total support from no more than 10 per cent. That is why it has to be imposed by force, and maintained by force. And the institutional instruments of that force, military and paramilitary, are at the moment maintained by grace of economic cooperation from the West.

In my appeal to the Western members of the Security Council I pointed out that such cooperation is in direct conflict with the basic ideals of Western democracy and should therefore be systematically dismantled.

If the Vorster government genuinely fears that this would bring hardship to its black citizens, it could immediately arrest the process of Western disengagement by announcing the calling of a national convention for the purpose of allowing all South Africans through elected representatives to negotiate a new constitution acceptable to the majority of the people.

The Vorster government has millions to spend on advertisements. If I had such resources I would place advertisements carrying statements by all the genuine black leaders of the majority in South Africa—if access could be gained to the jail cells in which are to be found all of them not yet killed by Vorster's security police.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD WOODS,
c/o Paddington Press Ltd,
21 Bentinck Street, W1.
March 15.

From Mr J. Mitchell

Sir, I find myself most disturbed that you chose on Tuesday last (March 14) to run an advertisement placed by the Director of Information at the South African Embassy.

Given that this is International Anti Apartheid year and more especially the week upon which the international trade union movement has chosen to show its abhorrence of apartheid, then your action must be seen as a direct provocation of all trade unionists.

The advertisement was an insult to all reasonable thinking men in that it was designed to give the impression that black South Africans are opposed to the imposition of sanctions against South Africa. A clear fabrication, for the Organization for African Unity and the United Nations have called for such sanctions.

We further know, do we not, that those who genuinely speak for the black people of South Africa have been silenced, banned, imprisoned and even tortured to death.

Given such glaring truths it was singularly inappropriate for you to publish the South African Government's distorted views, particularly this week that commemorates the anniversary of the Sharpville massacre. Your action was the equivalent of publishing an advert from Hitler's Nazi Germany whitewashing their horror camps.

Apartheid is an evil, a cancer that must be destroyed. The Anti-Apartheid Movement is not helped by you printing such distorted adverts and I hope that you would join with me in condemning apartheid and urge your readers to do likewise.

Yours faithfully,
J. MITCHELL,
London Joint Branches Secretary,
National Society of Operative Printers Graphical and Media Personnel,
NATSOPA House,
Milcote Street,
St George's Circus, SE1.
March 15.

Pritain and Rhodesia

From the Bishop of Mashonaland

Sir, In 1901 the second Bishop of Mashonaland, William Thomas Gaul, wrote: "I believe that England has been guilty again and again of sins of negligence and ignorance for the past 50 years in South Africa, as well as in her other colonies. She has shirked her responsibilities, shuffled out of her engagements, and played wiggle-waggle with her White man's burden."

As seventh Bishop of Mashonaland, I echo those words 77 years later.

By maintaining a hesitant neutrality with regard to the present movement of this country towards African majority rule, Britain is toying with an apologetic appeasement of terrorist leaders for fear of offending some of her trading partners.

Should those leaders obtain power by the force of their communist weapons, those who have provided the weapons will be one significant step nearer to total control of the Cape sea routes. At that time the puny oil rigs in the North Sea, so tragically vulnerable to a hostile commando force, would do nothing to save Britain from rapid capitulation to an economic blockade.

Yours,
✠ PAUL BURROUGH,
Bishop of Mashonaland,
PO Box UA7,
Salisbury,
Rhodesia.
March 10.

The politics of race

From Mr J. Sparrow

Sir, On your front page today Mr Duke of the Ku-Klux-Klan is described as a "racist" and a "racialist." I should like to ask you, and through you your readers, what these words mean; and I should like to be told whether I am a racist (or a racialist) myself.

I am not a member of the Ku-Klux-Klan, nor of the National Front, and I do not approve of the activities of either of those bodies (though I think that their members should be allowed the same freedom to state and to publicize their views as is allowed to their opponents). But I believe that races differ, and that in a country where a distinctive culture has been created and maintained by an indigenous (or long established) race, it should be a legitimate aim to preserve that culture by maintaining the racial purity of the nation that created it.

"Keep Barbados Black!" seems to me a legitimate (and, indeed, a laudable) aim. So does "Keep Britain White!" Whether in a given case it is possible to maintain the racial purity of a nation, and (if it is) what steps should, or may, be taken in order to maintain it—these may well be difficult questions to answer. But that the maintenance of racial purity in a nation, black or white, may be a desirable end, and that if one thinks it is a desirable end one should be at *liberty to say so—these seem to me* to be incontrovertible propositions.

Am I, then, a racist (or a racialist)? And is that necessarily a bad thing to be?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SPARROW,
Beechwood House,
Iffley Turn,
Oxford.
March 13.

New British Library

From Mr John Lawson

Sir, Whilst welcoming the architects' project (March 8) for the new British Library, I would also support wholeheartedly the plea of Mr Weinreb (March 9) for account to be taken of, and provision made for, "the ancillary services, trades and small industries which a great library both requires and generates".

Not all that many years ago Birmingham boasted a number of antiquarian bookshops. After much planning and rebuilding the city centre finds itself barren of antiquarian bookshops. This may not be the future fate of the London bookshops (although note the withering of Charing Cross Road), but the danger is there.

In the words of the Chairman of the British Library Board, "In ten or 20 years' time we are going to have easily the best library in Europe, and very possibly in the world." But what price the best if it dwells in sterilized isolation, cut off from its natural companions of the book world. An oasis of learning in a desert of office blocks and public authority housing.

We must look to ways of nurturing a reestablished Paternoster Row.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LAWSON, President,
Antiquarian Booksellers' Association,
154 Buckingham Palace Road SW1.
March 14.

Don't blame the toad

From Mrs M. E. Parsons

Sir, I must protest at the untrue remarks (copied from a disgraceful article in the *Daily Mirror* last year?) concerning the behaviour of toads towards gold fish which you have printed today. (March 15). This is how myths are propagated and for such a paper as yours to persist in this fallacy to the detriment of the much maligned and ill treated toad is disgraceful.

I have many gold fish in two ponds. For years each spring hundreds of toads visit these little ponds engaging in eager song and dance in competition for the more rare female toads that chance their way. Frequently in warmer weather they form the extraordinary Knot of Toads which can become so heavy that it sinks to the bottom of the pond and writhes there for a time.

Never, in the closest watch upon these amazing activities of these enchanting little creatures, have I ever seen one reach out to a gold fish, who stand about rather nonplussed during these goings on, or keep to a lower level of water.

Toads may clutch at other male toads in their games among the weeds, but almost immediately let go again—sensing their error of course. Should any deranged toad clutch in a most unlikely incident at a fleeting gold fish (I do not believe this tale) he would obviously let go again as he does with other male toads. If gold fish die in consequence of the invasion of toads to the ponds, let the owners consider the oxygen content of the water, and ask if it is not *that* which causes gold fish to die and give up this ridiculous notion that the fish are "strangled".

Please will you correct this wrong information.

Yours sincerely,
M. E. PARSONS,
21 Hillside,
Trewellard,
Pendeen,
Penzance,
Cornwall.
March 15.

Saving historic ships

From Mr Frank Carr

Sir, In referring to HMS Discovery, Mr Richard Gould-Adams (March 9) highlights the lamentable fact that public funds are not available to save historic ships as they are to preserve historic buildings. Yet in this country we pride ourselves, or should do, that since the days of the first Queen Elizabeth our greatness as an island people has been founded upon the seas. Reason enough, one might suppose, for ensuring that the few remaining ships which are the treasures of our maritime heritage should receive most favoured treatment among our national monuments.

Unhappily this is not yet so: and in countries overseas a similar lack of appreciation and urgency applies. Too often ships are regarded only as the unwelcome poor relations of castles and cathedrals. Yet historic ships are in truth the cathedrals of the sea, wherein we may both sense and honour the spirit of our ancestors. No model or picture can inspire the same emotion.

The volume of letters reaching me since your publication (November 19) of my plea for the creation of a World Ship Trust to encourage the preservation of historic ships clearly indicates how many are thinking on these lines. In particular there is strong support for the establishment of a small office in central London which would provide facilities for active consultation and collaboration between the major ship preservation societies of the world, leading eventually to the preparation of a register of historic craft worthy of preservation.

In the United States action has led to the formation of a Ship Trust Committee comprising the Presidents of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, the National Maritime Historical Society and the American Sail Training Association, plus the Director of the San Francisco Maritime Museum, with myself as International Chairman.

Here in Britain we have opened a World Ship Trust Project Account at Gosling's Branch of Barclays Bank, 19 Fleet Street, EC4, so that contributions from well wishers and friends may be used to help in meeting the promotional costs of drawing up a formal constitution and obtaining charitable status.

It is now my hope that this may mark the opening of a new era in which ship preservation throughout the world will at last come into its own.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK CARR,
10 Park Gate,
Blackheath, SE3.
March 12.

Conditions in Yugoslavia

From Mr Stephen Clissold

Sir, In your leader welcoming President Tito's recent visit you rightly stress that any threat to Yugoslavia's independence would be a threat to peace. But threats may have not only external but internal sources, such as pressures generated by the unsatisfied aspirations of national groups or by frustrated demands for basic civic liberties.

Despite last November's partial amnesty, Yugoslavia's jails still have their prisoners of conscience and her citizens are liable to harsh penalties for activities which no democracy should deem an offence. A recent case is that of the distinguished pharmacologist Dr Novakovic, sentenced to 12 years' hard labour, with confiscation of all property, for having visited a former Yugoslav Vice-Premier now living here in exile.

Since defying Stalin in 1948, Yugoslavia has gained respect by favouring non-aligned policies abroad and a measure of political experimentation at home. But disregard of human rights is no safeguard of national independence.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN CLISSOLD,
7 Cleveland Gardens, W2.

Commemorating soldiers

From Mr J. B. Conacher

Sir, When General Glubb writes in your Letters column of March 14 "that for a long time after the fall of France Britain faced the world alone" he forgets that Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa all declared war independently in 1939. The combined armed forces of these four dominions, not to mention those of four governments in exile, added considerably to Britain's armed strength in the days before the entry of the United States into the war. This fact in no way detracts from Britain's splendid achievement in those grim days, but she was not alone.

Yours sincerely,
J. B. CONACHER,
11 Prince Albert Road, NW1.

From Mr Adam Ciolkosz

Sir, General Sir John Glubb is wrong on one point in his otherwise convincing letter (March 14). It is not true that for a long time after the fall of France, Britain faced the world alone and Britain's armies were fighting alone all over the world. Polish troops fought alongside British armies all over the world ever since the efall of France. Is it fair to pass in silence over a faithful ally when the fighting is over?

Yours respectfully,
ADAM CIOLKOSZ,
Former Member of Polish Parliament,
9 Balmuir Gardens, S.W.15.

Winged nuisances

From Mrs Sondra Hillbery

Sir, If 30 hens + 20 ducks + nine geese+two cockerels+a peahen= intolerable nuisance to five people, what do 50 Jumbos + 40 BAC 1-11s + 35 707s + four Airbuses + a Concorde= to many thousands of people on Heathrow flight paths?

An exact analogy cannot, of course, be made, because although you can take a peahen to court, no such action is possible against the unfeathered variety.

Yours faithfully,
S. HILLBERY,
Apple Tree Cottage,
New Road,
Esher,
Surrey.

on farms

John Seymour

letter by Kenneth Mellanby subject (March 8), in which that only large mechanized can solve our future food is, ignores several factors. that, as every study that n made in the past 50 years *food production per acre* nly falls as farm acreage s (although *profits per acre* ise). Another is that food ion on large farms has a ble energy input-output ratio s by the United States De- t of Agriculture place this t five to one in North Ame- heat growing—five calories y in to produce one calory y in the form of wheat) other is the baleful effect ical based monoculture on not, as many non-farmers ractor fuel that accounts for input-output ratio. Tractor pretty negligible. It is the ount of fixed nitrogen on largescale agribusiness is ly hooked and the equally ount of poisonous sprays. field of wheat is sprayed seven times now during its of growth. The nitrogen is y energy from the natural ls—nearly all the poisons e from oil.

depends what we want. If t large profits for a small of very rich farmers and ulated countryside then we encourage large farms. If t to be self supporting in these islands then we encourage small ones. The assertion that we constantly hear that "Britain produces 50 per cent of her own food" is nonsense. It ignores the fact that nearly all our stock food is imported from abroad and all the vast amount of chemicals derives from sources outside this country. There are farms in this country (and their number is slowly growing) that are proving that we could be *really* self sufficient in food. If we farmed like the Chinese farmer we would be *exporting* food.

Sincerely,
JOHN SEYMOUR,
Fachongle Isaf Farm,
Trefdraeth,
Pembrokeshire.

The vanishing dog collar

From Canon A. R. Winnett

Sir, For some of the clergy the disuse of the clerical collar is dictated less by the theological and sociological considerations suggested by the Reverend Christopher Armstrong than by the inability or unwillingness of laundries to undertake the washing and starching of linen collars, while self respect and a sense of propriety make us reluctant to encircle our necks with a strip of plastic. A welcome consequence would be a return to the pre-Mid-Victorian white necktie, which serves as a sign of our calling yet is not so distinctive as to mark us out as a caste apart.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. WINNETT,
54 Orchards Way,
Highfield,
Southampton.
March 11.

Loving Cup millenary

From the Headmaster of Wellingborough School

Sir, With the Tower of London at present celebrating its 900th anniversary, it may be of interest to mention another event whose 1000th anniversary is on March 18. This only came to my notice through attending a City Dinner recently, where it was explained that the Ceremony of the Loving Cup is said to date back to the assassination at Corfe Castle, on March 18, 978, of King Edward the Martyr. It was on his stepmother's command that the assassination was carried out, and it took place while he was drinking from the cup proffered to him by his stepmother. Her son, Ethelred the Unready, succeeded to the throne.

From this event has sprung the custom of guarding your neighbour at the table as he drinks from the cup that is being passed round. The ceremony has its origins in the need for security, and ceremonies generally help to provide a sense of continuity and stability within a community. Although the last 30 years have seen an increase in casualness and an evident disdain for some ceremonies, one hopes that this trend has run its course, and that the value and unifying influence of traditional ceremonies on family or community occasions will always be recognized.

Yours faithfully,
G. GARRETT, Headmaster,
The School,
Wellingborough,
Northamptonshire.
March 13.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 16: Mr I. J. M. Sutherland was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Athens.

Mrs Sutherland had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Mr James Jones had the honour of being received by Her Majesty when The Queen invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour.

Mr J. D. Hennings was received in audience by Her Majesty and kissed hands upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Republic of Singapore.

Mrs Hennings had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were present this evening at a Reception given by the Magistrates' Association at St James's Palace.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received upon arrival by the President of the Magistrates' Association (the Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Chancellor) and the Chairman of Council (Mr Basil Edwards).

The Lady Susan Hussey, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present at luncheon today with the Executive Partners of de Zoete and Bevan at the Stock Exchange.

His Royal Highness was present at dinner with the Whitefriars Club at the Press Club, Shoe Lane, EC4.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, accompanied by Captain Mark Phillips, presented the annual British Academy Film and Television Awards at the Conference Centre, Wembley, this evening.

Mrs Andrew Feilden and Major Nicholas Lawson were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 16: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as President, visited the Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows, East Molesey, this afternoon.

Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

The annual Floral Luncheon will be held on May 10 at the Savoy Hotel in aid of the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops. The president is Lord Aberconway and the chairman is Viscountess Sidmouth. The speakers will be Mrs J. Ewart-Biggs and Mr Norman St John-Stevas, MP.

A memorial service for George Dixon Walford will be held at St Michael's, Chester Square, at 3 pm on Monday, April 3, 1978.

Birthdays today

Mr N. M. Baldwin, 55; Lady (Megan) Bull, 56; Vice-Admiral Sir Donald Gibson, 62; Mr Joseph Godber, MP, 64; Lord Granville-West, 74; Major-General Sir Edmund Hakewill Smith, 82; Baroness Hornsby-Smith, 64; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Edmond Joly de Lotbinière, 75; Mr Rudolf Nureyev, 39; Sir Patrick Reilly, 69.

Today's engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Thames Valley Broadcasting, Calcot, 11.15; later, the Queen, accompanied by the Duke, opens Reading Civic Centre and dines with mayor, 12.10.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother presents shamrock to 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, Victoria Barracks, Windsor, 12.

Exhibitions: Slavonic manuscripts exhibition, British Library, 10-5; Otto Dix etchings, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, 10-5.

Talks: Small is beautiful, by Mr John Horam, MP, York and District Fabian Society, King's Manor, York, 8; Music hall memories, by Mr T. A. C. Lomas, Brent Town Hall, 8.

Poets in person: Leo Aylen and Edwin Morgan, Poetry Society, 21 Earls Court Square, 7.30.

Film: *Manioc Bread: Jungle Farming* (South America), *Gelede*, Yoruba masquerade (Nigeria), Museum of Mankind, 6 Burlington Gardens, Piccadilly, 11.30.

Music: David Christian Clark, guitar, St Stephen's, Walbrook, 12.30; The *Requiem*, Maurice Dumfie, *New London Singers*, St Paul's Cathedral, 6.30; Youth makes music, London Suzuki Group, Festival Hall, 8.

Memorial service

Professor W. Klyne
A memorial service for Professor William Klyne was held at Westfield College (University of London), Hampstead, on Wednesday. The Rev G. Brown and the Rev Dr J. J. Throssell officiated. The lessons were read by the Principal of Westfield College, Dr B. Thwaites (also representing the Vice-Chancellor of London University) and Professor B. J. Aylett. Sir Gordon Wolstenholme gave an address. Among those present were:

Professor Klyne (widow), Mr M. Klyne (son), Miss J. Klyne (daughter), Dr D. Klein (sister); Sir Harry Melville (chairman of the college council), Sir Brian Windeyer, Mrs B. Thwaites, Mr J. Buck Keene (representing the Chemical Society), Dr Helen Duke (representing the Medical Research Council) and other academic colleagues.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Alastair Pilkington and Mrs E. Haynes
The engagement is announced between Alastair Pilkington, of Rainhill, Merseyside, and Kathleen, widow of Eldridge Haynes, of St Croix, United States Virgin Islands.

Mr G. E. K. Garvie and Miss A-L. K. Cunningham
The marriage has been arranged and will take place on May 29, 1978, between Gordon, only son of Mr and Mrs J. O. Garvie, of Hetherley Road, Weymouth, and Anna-Lisa, younger daughter of the Rev J. C. and Mrs Cunningham, of Devonshire Crescent, Leeds.

Mr R. Higham and Miss R. Barclay
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr F. Higham and the late Mrs Eve Higham and stepson of Mrs Angela Higham, of Rus House, Henfield, West Sussex, and Ruth, eldest daughter of the Rev Ian and Mrs Barclay, of Brighton.

Mr G. P. Owen and Miss J. Joel
The engagement is announced between Gordon Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. Owen, of London, and Janice, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Joel, of London.

Mr P. S. Viita and Miss R. M. King
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs O. Viita, of Mashpee, Massachusetts, and Rosanna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs W. E. King, of Datchet, Berkshire.

Mr R. H. St M. Kemmis Betty and Miss V. A. L. L. Lacon
The engagement is announced between Richard Kemmis Betty, The Queen's Own Hussars, eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs P. Kemmis Betty, of Hampton Hill House, Swanmore, Hampshire, and Victoria Anderida, daughter of Commander R. W. B. Lacon, DSC, of Denman Island, British Columbia, and Mrs Lacon, of Norris Castle, Isle of Wight.

Mr R. A. R. Davidson and Miss F. M. A. V. de Figueiredo
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. H. Davidson, of Boston, Lincolnshire, and Feliciana Maria, younger daughter of Senhor and Senhora F. E. A. P. de Figueiredo, of Lisbon, Portugal.

Mr J. A. Filmer-Bennett and Miss E. A. Heeps
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Anstey, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs J. R. Filmer-Bennett, of Fulford, York, and Elaine Agnes, daughter of Mr W. Heeps and the late Mrs Anne Heeps, of Jollivers, Felden, Hertfordshire.

Mr G. J. Porcas and Miss S. A. Moore
The engagement is announced between Graham, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Porcas, of Aldingbourne, Sussex, and Susan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs K. D. Moore, of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.

The marriage arranged between Mr John Carding and Miss Rosalind Notley will not take place.

Marriage

Mr C. P. W. Robson and Miss A. J. Smith
The marriage took place yesterday at Chelsea Old Church between Mr Charles Robson, elder son of Mr and Mrs William Robson, of Linch Old Rectory, Midhurst, Sussex, and Miss Aleca Smith, elder daughter of Mr Norman Smith and of Lady Alexandra Smith, of Reighton's, Playden, Rye, Sussex. The Rev C. E. Leighton Thomson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her uncle, Earl Cadogan, wore a gown of chiffon over pale aquamarine blue with a short train. Her veil was held in place by a diamond tiara, lent by Mrs George Courtauld, and she carried a bouquet of white spring flowers. James and Lucy Sheppard and Katie Wines attended her and Mr David Robertson was best man.

A reception was held at 30 Pavilion Road and the honeymoon will be spent in Paris.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Frank Judd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held yesterday in honour of Dr Anne Vondeling, Speaker of the Second Chamber of the Netherlands States General. Among the guests were:

The Netherlands Ambassador, Mr T. H. E. Kochhols; Sir Edward Tomkins, Mr M. Ward, MP, Mr W. R. Van Straubenzee, MP, Mrs H. McClure Smith, Mr B. St G. Reed, Mr J. L. Hoender and Mr Roy Swinscoe.

Royal Institute of Chemistry
The President of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, Mr C. N. Thompson, held a luncheon party at 30 Russell Square yesterday. The guests included:

Mrs Shirley Williams, MP, Mr Eric Moonman, MP; Lord Shackleton, Sir Frank Hartley, Sir Norman Lindop, Mr R. P. Norton, Dr Robert Press, Mr Horace Wright, Professor R. O. C. Norman, Dr F. A. Robinson, Professor J. M. Ward, Mr L. M. Miall, Professor G. J. Hills, Mr R. W. Flack, Mr B. A. Henman and Dr Eric Parker.

Old Bedford Modernians
The President of the Old Bedford Modernians' Club, Mr A. A. Jones, MP, was in the chair at the annual London luncheon of the club held in the House of Commons yesterday. Mr P. J. Squire was the guest of honour.

Dinners

Whitefriars Club
The Duke of Edinburgh was the guest of honour at an anniversary feast of the Whitefriars Club held at the Press Club last night and was received by Mr Rodney Bennett-England, chairman and hon secretary. Sir Robert Mayer, the oldest and longest-serving member of the club, was among those present.

High Sheriff of Greater London
The High Sheriff of Greater London and Mrs Titchener-Barrett entertained the Under Sheriffs, Mr Alastair Black and Mr Michael Harris, and their ladies at dinner at the Carlton Club last night. Other guests included:

Mr and Mrs Mark Baring, Sir Theo and Lady Constantine, Sir Seymour Egerton, Sir William and Lady Harris, Commodore and Mrs Charles Noble and Mr and Mrs A. W. Ramsay.

Lady Mayoress
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained at dinner at the Mansion House last night the Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff of City livery companies and their ladies, Aldermen, Sheriffs, the Chief Commoner, some members of the Court of Common Council and the high officers of the corporation and their ladies. The speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Master of the Mercers' Company and the Master of the Grocers' Company. The guests included:

The Masters, Prime Wardens and Clerks of 11 principal livery Companies, the Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff of 70 other livery Companies, the Parish Clerks' Company and the Watermen and Lightermen's Company with their ladies; the Bishop of Oxford and Miss Philippa Woollcombe, Colonel Sir Cullum and Lady Welch, Sir Edmund Stockdale, Sir Charles and Lady Trinder, the President of the City Livery Club and Mrs W. Anthony Clarke, Mr and Mrs Charles Brocklebank, the Rev Kent White and Miss Christina White, and Mr and Mrs Oscar Hilderbrand.

Anglo-Israel Association
The Anglo-Israel Association held its thirtieth annual dinner last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Winston Churchill, MP, was a guest of honour and Mme Herzog read a speech on behalf of Mr Chaim Herzog, Ambassador of Israel at the United Nations, who was unable to attend. Baroness Elliot of Harwood was in the chair and proposed the loyal toast. Mr A. Kidron, Ambassador of Israel, other members of the Diplomatic Corps and many members of both Houses of Parliament were also present.

County Planning Officers' Society
The president, Mr G. McDonic, and members of the County Planning Officers' Society gave a dinner at the Law Society's Hall last night. The guests included:

Sir Hugh Casson, Mr J. Ireland, Mrs E. Coker, Dr W. Burns, Mr J. A. Colley, Mr A. C. Hetherington, the President of the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Chairman of the Society of County Secretaries, the President of the County Surveyors' Society, the President of the Metropolitan Planning Officers' Society and the President of the District Planning Officers' Society.

Receptions

Magistrates' Association
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were present at a reception held by the Magistrates' Association at St James's Palace yesterday and were received by Mr J. B. Edwards, chairman of the association's council.

HM Government
Mr Edward Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mrs Bishop and Mr Edward Rowlands, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, were hosts at a reception held by her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House yesterday in honour of the International Coffee Organization.

Lord Layton
Lord Layton held a reception at the House of Lords yesterday evening for the committee, council and corporate members of the European-Atlantic Group. Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was the guest of honour. Among those present were:

Sir Frederic Bennett, MP, and Lady Bennett, Mrs Elma Dangerfield, Sir Edward Hulton, Count and Countess de Lasta, Lady Layton and Sir Gilbert Longden.

Solway forts to be excavated

Two Roman forts recently discovered by aerial photography in the Solway area are to be excavated this summer by Professor Barri Jones, professor of archaeology at Manchester University.

Professor Jones said the forts at Burgh-by-Sands and Annan were bigger than those previously known there. They promised to reveal even more of the intricate build-up of the Roman defences both up to and during the period of Hadrian's Wall.

Athenaeum

Professor James Meade, the economist and Nobel prize winner, and Mr Sidney Nolan the artist, have been elected members of the Athenaeum under Rule II.

Number of deer has increased

The latest report of the Red Deer Commission shows that the deer stock has increased despite a rise of about half in the annual cull over the past five years. Steps are being taken to cull hinds.

The number of deer killed as marauders suggests that damage to agriculture is increasing.

The Red Deer Commission's Annual Report for 1977 (Stationery Office, 35p).

Portrait for gallery

A portrait by Sir Thomas Lawrence of William Lamb, later the second Lord Melbourne, has been accepted by the Government in satisfaction of estate duty.



Museum poster: Mr Lawrence Preece, who was commissioned to design a publicity poster for the British Museum, with his painting based on the Egyptian collections at the museum. The poster will be published next week.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Peter Moon, aged 49, Counsellor at the British Embassy in Cairo, to be British High Commissioner to Tanzania, in succession to Mr M. Brown, who will be taking up a further Diplomatic Service appointment.

Mr Percy Cradock, aged 54, until recently British Ambassador to the German Democratic Republic, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, in succession to Sir Edward Youde, who will be taking up a further diplomatic appointment.

Mr J. C. Edmonds, head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to be leader of the United Kingdom Delegation to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Negotiations, in succession to Mr Cradock.

Dr Norbert Singer, aged 46, deputy director of the Polytechnic of North London, to be director of Thames Polytechnic.

Dr Mark Hughes, Labour MP for Durham, to be vice-chairman of the British Council Board.

Mr John Scott, aged 21, organ student at St John's College, Cambridge, to be assistant organist at Southwark Cathedral and St Paul's Cathedral.

Latest wills

Mrs Edith Mary Eales, of Sutton Coldfield, left £97,127 net. After specific bequests totalling £7,600 and effects she left the residue to North Birmingham Health District for the use of Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield.

Mrs Eleanor Mason Thurston, of Bournemouth, left £95,711 net. After a few small bequests she left the residue equally between the RSPCA and Blue Cross.

Other estates include (net before tax paid; tax not disclosed):

Corbett, Mr John Charles, of Clapham £140,972
Fairclough, Mr Walter Amedee, of Holmbury St Mary .. £214,272
Feather, Mr Hedley, of Bradford, wool merchant £129,500
Garrett-Pegge, Mr Wilfrid George, of Chesham, barrister .. £393,720
Gentilli, Mr Adolfo Ernesto, of Wimbledon £205,239
Greenwood, Mr John Fawcett, of Brandsby, North Yorkshire £155,214
Jones, Mr James Maurice, of Canford Magna £415,946
Noble, Mr Peter Raymond, of Southend-on-Sea £126,874
Privett, Mr Kenneth, of Horndean £270,010
Todd, Mr Charles Lewis, of Sunderland, company director £235,226

Church news

Appointments
The Rev J. C. Fenton, Principal of St Chad's College, Durham, to be a canon of Christ Church, Oxford.
The Rev T. D. Barlow, assistant priest of Emmanuel Church, Northwood, diocese of London, to be chaplain of Vevey with Château d'Oex, Switzerland, jurisdiction of North and Central Europe.
The Rev J. M. G. Barrow, priest-in-charge of St Nathaniel's, Fazakerley, diocese of Liverpool, to be vicar of the benefice.
The Rev P. H. Bell, Vicar of Holdenhurst with Throop, Bournemouth, diocese of Winchester, to be priest-in-charge of Hilperton with Whaddon and Staverton, Trowbridge, diocese of Salisbury.
The Rev D. H. Cozens, curate-in-charge of St Luke's, Deptford, diocese of Southwark, to be Rees Missioner in the diocese of Ely and evangelist with the Dick Rees Evangelistic Fund.
The Rev D. M. K. Durston, project officer with the Grubb Institute, Lee-on-Solent, to be priest-in-charge of St Paul's, West Bromwich, diocese of Lichfield.
The Rev E. C. Ford, Vicar of St Michael's, Cornholme and All Angels', Todmorden, diocese of Wakefield, to be Vicar of the proposed united benefice of Wragby with Sharlston, same diocese.
Canon M. B. Slaughter, Vicar of Christ Church, Skipton, and Rural Dean of Skipton, diocese of Bradford, to be priest-in-charge of St Mary and St Cuthbert's, Bolton Abbey, same diocese.
The Rev R. N. K. Watton, curate of Madron, diocese of Truro, to be priest-in-charge of Lostwithiel and assistant religious education adviser for church schools in the Archdeaconry of Bodmin, same diocese.
The Rev W. A. L. Zwalf, chaplain to the City University, London, to be Vicar of Coalbrookdale and priest-in-charge of Ironbridge and Little Wenlock, diocese of Hereford.

Diocese of Bath and Wells
The Rev C. A. Jones, Vicar of St John the Baptist's, Bridgwater, to be also curate-in-charge of Chedzoy.
The Rev R. S. Windmill, curate of Wraxall, in charge of Failand, to be curate-in-charge of Holton.

Diocese of Lincoln
The Rev S. Jackson, Team Rector of Little Coates, to be Rector of Ruskington.
The Rev R. H. Jennings, curate of Coleford, diocese of Gloucester, to be Team Vicar in the Bottesford with Ashby Team Ministry.

Diocese of St Albans
The Rev P. F. Bradshaw, lecturer and tutor at Chichester Theological College, to be Vicar of Flamstead.
The Rev P. A. W. Cotton, chaplain of Downing College, Cambridge, diocese of Ely, to be Vicar of Eaton Socon.

Resignations
The Very Rev F. W. Cogman, Dean of Guernsey and Rector of St Peter Port, Guernsey, diocese of Winchester, July 1.
Canon R. T. Barnett, Vicar of Highcliffe and Hinton Admiral, diocese of Winchester, April 30.
The Rev P. J. Disney, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Halstead, diocese of Chelmsford, July 31.
Canon S. W. Goodman, priest-in-charge of Wold Newton, Hawerby and Beesby, and Rural Dean of Haverstoe, diocese of Lincoln, April 29.
Canon E. J. Kingsnorth, priest-in-charge of Bradpole, diocese of Salisbury and canon emeritus of Southwark Cathedral, April 30.
The Rev D. Ross, Vicar of Stebbing with Lindsell, diocese of Chelmsford, June 30.
Canon H. F. C. Thorpe, Rector of Ecton and Warden of Ecton House, diocese of Peterborough, July 31.

Church in Wales
Canon F. J. S. Davies, canon missioner of Bangor Cathedral, to be Vicar of Gorseinon, diocese of Swansea and Brecon.
The Rev M. O. Pritchard, Vicar in the rectorial benefice of Dolgellau with Brithdir and Bryncoedifor with Llanfachreth with Llanelltyd, diocese of Bangor, to Vicar of Betws y Coed with Capel Curig, same diocese.

Resignation
Canon E. J. Jones, Vicar of St Mary's, Bangor, on May 4.

Church of Scotland
The Rev J. C. Gregory, Half Morton linked with Kirkpatrick Fleming, presbytery of Annandale, to Blantyre St Andrew's, presbytery of Hamilton.
The Rev A. Macdonald, Kilmarnock Old High Kirk, presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock, to Paisley St Andrew's, presbytery of Paisley.
The Rev J. McArthur, Neilston, presbytery of Paisley, to Howwood, presbytery of Paisley.
The Rev T. C. Richardson, Clydebank Radnor Park, presbytery of Dumbarton, to Cults West, presbytery of Aberdeen.
The Rev J. Russell, Southend, presbytery of South Argyll, to Tillicoultry, presbytery of Stirling.
The Rev R. P. Sloan, Invergordon, presbytery of Tain, to Perth North, presbytery of Perth.

EEC rules worry growers

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Uncertainty about EEC rules means that British farmers will face a long delay before they are told how the Government intends to support the potato market this year. Mr Richard Butler, deputy president of the National Farmers' Union, said growers would be disappointed about the delay and worried about the danger of sudden changes to traditional British market support.

Mr Edward Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in a Commons written reply yesterday that ministers did not expect to be able to announce detailed arrangements for market support until the summer.

That will mean a delay of up to four months, and farmers will be well into the growing season before they know how the crop is to be supported. Their only consolation was that Mr Bishop's announcement ended doubt about whether there would be any support at all.

Potatoes are not covered by the common agricultural policy, but the EEC Commission wants to bring the crop into the policy as soon as possible.

Volumes annotated by Evelyn sold for £26,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

John Evelyn was a founder member of the Royal Society and his copies of the first 289 issues of its *Philosophical Transactions*, dating between 1665 and 1704, were sold at Christie's yesterday for £26,000 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000), to Quaritch. They are all annotated by Evelyn himself and some of his notes are highly entertaining.

At the end of Houghton's *Discourse on Coffee* (September, 1699) Evelyn adds a note on the theory that the Queen should take up smoking, thus setting an example that would be followed by all other women in the kingdom, to the great improvement of the public revenue.

Saxton's *An Atlas of England and Wales*, of 1574-78, a first edition of the first county maps of England, went to Burgess for £18,000 (estimate £4,000 to £6,000) and Speed's *The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain*, of 1676, made £14,000 (estimate £7,500 to £10,000) to Hammond.

The day's sale made £141,328, with 1 per cent unsold. That brings the total realized by the Evelyn library to date to £648,871.

At Christie's South Kensington new auction records were set for the work of the nineteenth-century photographers. A photograph by Roger Fenton of the Houses of Parliament under construction, seen from down river and dating from the mid-1850s, made £1,900 (estimate £200 to £300). Two moody landscape studies taken by the same photographer about the same time and entitled "September clouds" made £3,600 (estimate £200 to £300).

A portfolio of 20 views of the Crystal Palace by P. H. Delamotte, a contemporary of Fenton, made £1,900 (estimate £400 to £600). A fine whole plate daguerreotype study of a family in the garden of their clapboard home by Fontayne and Porter of Cincinnati made £1,000 (estimate £600 to £900). The sale totalled £62,109, with 9 per cent unsold.

Sotheby's held an important sale of English watercolours totalling £153,430, with 15 per cent unsold; the unsold percentage mainly reflects the failure of a group of Girtins to sell. They were sent in by Sir Francis Beaumont, a descendant of Girtin's patron, Sir George Beaumont. Only one of the group of five sold, but that made the top price in the sale at £17,000 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000). It was a view of "Conwy Castle, Caernarvonshire".

Other highlights of the sale included Turner's "Arthington Mill on the Wharfe" at £12,000 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000). A study of camels by John Frederick Lewis went for £8,000 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) to the Fine Art Society; which is planning an exhibition of orientalist works this summer.

A silver sale at Sotheby's totalled £181,817, with 8 per cent unsold. It included a collection of fox-head stirrup cups, which totalled £42,470; the top price was £7,500 (estimate £4,500 to £5,500) for two fox-head stirrup cups by Storr and Mortimer of 1834-35, weighing 33oz.

At Sotheby's Belgravia a sale of European glass and Continental ceramics made £63,338, with 3 per cent unsold. A sale of jewelry by Sotheby's in Bond Street made £103,555, with 6 per cent unsold; a jewel sale in New York on Wednesday made £357,240, with 13 out of 177 lots unsold. Christie's yesterday held a furniture sale totalling £65,830, with 7 per cent unsold, and a carpet sale totalling £9,060, with 17 per cent unsold.

Parting gift for family centre

Money contributed as a leaving present to the Bishop of Stepney, Dr Huddleston, is at his request going towards the establishment of a family centre for handicapped children. He resigns at Easter to become Bishop of Mauritius. The centre, now being built in part of the Church of St James, Lower Clapton, will be known as the Huddleston Centre, and is intended to be a lasting memorial to his work in east London.

Contributions to the fund should be made out to the Huddleston Centre, and sent to the Archdeacon of Hackney, the Ven G. B. Timms, St Andrew's Vicarage, St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AB.

Southwell Minster

An appeal launched almost a year ago to finance urgent repairs to Southwell Minster, Nottinghamshire, has so far raised £250,000. The target is £365,000.

Elgar appeal concert

Paul Tortelier and Yehudi Menuhin will play at a concert at the Albert Hall, on May 5, in aid of the £200,000 appeal for the preservation of Elgar's homes at Broadheath, near Worcester, and Plas Gwyn, near Hereford.

OBITUARY

DR J. D'ARCY WAECHTER
Work on Palaeolithic period

Dr John d'Arcy Waechter, who died on March 5, was born on November 16, 1915, the second son of Sir Harry Waechter, Bt.

He had been a member of the London University Institute of Archaeology since 1953 and at his death was a Senior Lecturer there. He was probably best known for his field work on Palaeolithic sites in the Mediterranean, the Near East and Africa. After leaving Westminster School and before serving in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War, he excavated with Sir Flinders Petrie, Sir Mortimer Wheeler and Professor John Garstang, and directed his own excavations in Transjordan.

After the war, under the aegis of Dr (later Professor) Dorothy Garrod, he studied for a PhD at Cambridge. From then on he was involved in a wide range of expeditions and various visiting Professorships in the Old and New W[orlds]. His wide interests and [distinc]tions were acknowledged b[y the] presentation to him of [the Pitt] Rivers Memorial Medal [of the] Royal Anthropological Ins[titute] and the Henry Stopes Mem[orial] Medal of the Geologists' [Asso]ciation of London.

He will be sadly missed by his widow and daughters, by the students and staff of the Institute of Archaeology.

SIR JOHN WHYATT

Sir John Whyatt, who died on March 14 at the age of 72 was Chief Justice of Singapore 1955-58.

He was director of the Justice committee which in 1961 produced the report recommending that a permanent official with powers similar to those of the Scandinavian Ombudsman, should be appointed to investigate complaints of maladministration against Government departments. The report, largely Whyatt's work, took up the subject of the citizen's grievances against the bureaucracy at the point at which the *Frank Committee* left off.

Born on April 13, 1905, he was educated at Stonyhurst College and Balliol. He was appointed Assistant Crown Solicitor, Hongkong, in 1937, and Crown Counsel, Hongkong, in 1938; and in 1941 was seconded to act as Secretary to the Eastern Group Supply Council in India. He reverted [to] substantive Hongkong ap[point]ment in 1944, for work wi[th] Hongkong planning unit [of] Colonial Office and was [subse]quently appointed for s[pecial] duty as supplies officer fo[r] Colonial Office in Australi[a] ... returned to Hongkong in ... as Custodian of Enemy [Prop]erty. In 1948 he was appo[inted] Attorney-General of Barba[dos].

He was Attorney-Genera[l and] Legal Minister for Legal A[ffairs] during the emergency in [Kenya] and had to resolve many [...] and novel problems.

He left Singapore in 195[8 and] was in 1961 appointed ... of the Chief Court for the [Per]sian Gulf, a post he held [until] 1966 when he became Di[rector] of Studies, Overseas G[overn]ment Legal Officers cour[ses].

He married in 1936 Mar... elder daughter of K. S... They had one son. His [wife] died in 1976.

MR IAN McMASTER

A correspondent writes:

Ian McMaster, who died in Oxford on February 2, was HM Consul in Florence from 1952 until 1960. During his earlier years, when he was teaching and studying history as a schoolmaster at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and at Eton, he had maintained a keen interest in foreign affairs, and a period during the war spent in the Research Department of the Foreign Office enabled him in later life to fulfil his boyhood ambition of a diplomatic career from which his physical disabilities had formerly disqualified him.

Already a student of Provençal and of Dante, it did not take him long to become fluent in Italian, nor did it take long for so individualistic a people as the Florentines to appreciate this unusual Englishman. He became an admirer and close friend of that remarkable mayor of Florence, Giorgio La Pira, sharing the same faith, the same [...] to the relief of poverty, and the same love of Flo[rence] —though, when helping select delegates for La [Pira's] annual "Convegno di Pace" did sometimes try to temper Pira's almost childlike faith diplomatic rank promised ... ual excellence.

In the consulate Ian had [the] gift of breaking effor[tlessly] through every barrier of [form]ality so easily erected in of[ficial] institutions. Rank made no [dif]ference to him. On one oc[casion] he worked tirelessly to im[prove] the prison conditions of [two] British smugglers, and it [was] typical of him that he [...] as the friend of both smug[glers] and prison authorities.

The secret of the impr[ession] made on so many is sim[ilar] to the disp[osition] described by St Catheri[ne of] Siena: "He rejoices in [every] condition and every type [of man]; he rejoices more in the [differ]ent kinds of men that [He has made] than he would do in [...] them all walk in the sam[e way] for so he sees the greatn[ess of] God made manifest..."

MR GERALD REITLINGER

Mr Anthony Powell writes:

Gerald Reitlinger, an inveterate traveller (he wrote about Turkey and Persia), collector of pictures and ceramics, had at different times been himself a painter; editor of an art magazine (*Drawing and Design*); chronicler of such varied subjects as the economics of aesthetic taste, and the course of *Hitler's persecution of the Jews*.

After Westminster, Reitlinger had been just old enough to serve for a few months with the Middlesex Regiment before coming up to Oxford (Christ Church) with the immediately post-war generation. He was in the Army again for a short time (the Gunner Battery raised by Victor Cazelet) from which he retired owing to ill health.

He always regarded that period of army service as one of the happiest of his life. Tall, bespectacled, jerky in his movements, slightly put-upon in manner, unpredictable, Reitlinger had a sharp, sometimes macabre, humour of his own. In the Twenties and Thirties he used to invite fairly regular house-parties to Thornsdale, a large-scale cottage near Iden in Kent, lying in a wonderful situation above the Romney Marsh; later to Wo[odgate] House, Beckley, Sussex, a [some]what larger house, which [won] him the title of "The S[quire]" among his friends; one adopted by all who came [to know] him.

Reitlinger's entertainin[g was] something very much [his] own, and he could be ra[ther] ... Once, when Constant La[mbert] accidentally upset a gl[ass of] sherry on the lawn, Reit[linger] rapped out: "Wasteful h[ound]" but in spite of ups and [downs] there were great sessi[ons at] Woodgate: bouts-rimés ... which the host had ... planchette (he possessed [some] psychic powers); the ... dressing-up weekend, ... posed photographs of [the] Tranby Croft case. The las[t time] we met, Reitlinger was [...]ing from the London L[ibrary]. He had a way of shakin[g his] head from side to side [like a] toy mandarin. He compl[ained] of old age, saying he just ... in seclusion now and no ... He possessed an extraord[inary] fund of unlikely inform[ation], had met a lot of odd peo[ple at] one time and another, ... remembers many amusin[g and en]joyable moments asso[ciated] with him.

Mr Saiji Hasegawa, President of Japan's Jiji Press news agency until 1971, died of a heart attack in Tokyo hospital on March 10, aged 74. He was chief correspondent in London for the pre-war Japanese news agency Domei.

Lady Wiles, widow [of Sir] Gilbert Wiles, KCIE, CSI, on March 9 at the age [of ...]. She was Winifred ... daughter of Frederick ... Pryor, and she married [her] husband in 1906. He di[ed in] 1961.

University news

Oxford
The following have been nominated as pro-proctors: Dr R. A. Fletcher and Dr G. Hancock, fellows of Trinity College, by the Senior Proctor, and Dr A. F. Heath and Dr M. J. Pilling, fellows of Jesus College, by the Junior Proctor.

Awards and elections
Passmore Edwards Prize: Victoria M. Harris, Lady Margaret Hall; proxime accessit, Rachel H. Bowlby, St Anne's College.
EXETER COLLEGE: Honorary fellowship: Professor Sir John Butterfield.
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE: Tutorial fellowship, classical languages and literature: M. Davies, MA, Woodhouse Fellow of the college, 1975-77, lecturer, 1977-78. Junior research fellowship in modern languages: Ann Jefferson, MA, DPhil, lecturer in French, 1977-78.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. Weir Junior Research Fellowship, from Oct 1: J. N. P. Rawlins, MA, commoner of the college, 1968-71, graduate member, 1971-77.
BRASENOSE COLLEGE. William Hulme Open Scholarship: Nicola R. H. Leach, exhibitioner of the college, formerly of Malvern Girls' College.
[...]cine Fellowship from last Jan 1: Mrs S. M. Lachmann, MA, MB, BChir, formerly of Newnham C. Appointed college lecturer in economics and pre-elected into fellowship from Oct 1: Miss J. C. Rubery, MA, formerly of Newnham C.
PEMBROKE COLLEGE. Sister Research Fellowships: D. J. Allwright, BA, Peterhouse, mathematics.
ST EDMUND'S HOUSE. Research fellowship from Oct 1: M. J. Hambrey, PhD.
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE. Fellowship under title B and appointed lecturer in English from Oct 1: H. R. L. Beadle, PhD, St John's C. Senior overseas visiting scholarship from March 25 to August 18, 1979: C. T. O'Sullivan, BS (University C, Cork), PhD (Catholic Univ of America), lecturer in physics, University C, Cork. Norman Laski Senior Studentship for one year from Oct 1: J. Walsman, BA (Monash Univ).
WOLFSON COLLEGE. Fellowships under title B: M. H. Braude, MA, university lecturer in classical archaeology and C. D. Sheldon, MA, university lecturer in Japanese history. Fellowship under title D: Dr N. T. Gorman, college junior research fellow in tumour immunology. Visiting fellowships under title F for the Lent and Easter term, 1978: Professor D. R. Clark, professor of English, Massachusetts Univ, and Professor W. I. Matson, professor of philosophy, California Univ.

Cambridge
Elections and appointments
EMMANUEL COLLEGE. Research fellowships for three years from Oct 1: R. S. White, BA, bachelor scholar of the college; M. W. Dupree, MA, of Nuffield C, Oxford, and S. B. Furber, BA, of St John's C, Cambridge, Rolls Royce Research Fellowship.
GIRTON COLLEGE. Schoolmaster and schoolmistress fellow commoners for Easter term, 1978: R. Morris, Nottingham Education Authority; P. M. W. Williams, Headmaster, St Teilo's Church in Wales HS and Mrs J. Abbot, of Redbourne S.
GONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE. Unofficial fellowships from Oct 1: J. R. Stafford, MA, PhD(Leeds), pure mathematics; R. P. Tuckett, BA, physical chemistry; and D. J. Reynolds, BA, history.
KING'S COLLEGE. Professorial fellowship from April 1: J. M. Thomas, BSc, PhD, DSc(Wales), FRS, professor-elect of physical chemistry.
LUCY CAVENDISH COLLEGIATE SOCIETY. Fellowships from last Jan 25: H. E. W. Crawford, MA (Cantab), PhD (Lond), librarian; and J. M. Robin, MA(Lond).
NEW HALL. Institute of Sports Medi[...]

London
A three-year study is being undertaken at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine of the implications of tuberculosis in badgers and other species of wildlife. It has been commissioned by the Nature Conservancy Council.
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
Grants
£21,017 from the King Edward's Hospital Fund for three years' study of short-term residential care of mentally handicapped children by Miss M. Oswin. £20,257 from the Medical Research Council for a three years' study of factors affecting the acquisition of manual communication by mentally handicapped, under Dr C. C. Kiernan. From the Social Science Research Council: £25,000 for a two years' study of pupils' conceptions of the social division of labour, under Professor B. B. Bernstein; £23,816 for two years' case study approach to pupil identities and teacher strategies within mixed-ability curricula, under W. B. Davies; £21,692 for one year's study of care of children under two by childminders, under Professor J. Tizard.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, March 16, 1953

Stalin's successor

By Our Special Correspondent

A special session of the Su[preme] Soviet held in Moscow ye[sterday] unanimously approved ... appointment of Mr Malen[kov as] chairman of the Council of [Minis]ters in succession to Mr Stal[in, and] of Marshal Voroshilov as [the] President of the Soviet Un[ion in] place of Mr Shvernik. ... Supreme Soviet also appro[ved] other government appoi[ntments] made since Mr Stalin's dea[th. The] proposal to appoint Mr Ma[lenkov] to the post left vacant by [the] "great leader" was made ... Beria, a deputy Prime Minis[ter and] Minister for Internal Affa[irs, who] introduced him as the ... pupil of Lenin and Stalin. ... radio said that delegates ... their feet and showed their ... val of the new leader by lo[ng] prolonged cheers ... Mr Ma[lenkov] addressed the Supreme ... immediately after it had ... approval of his appointm[ent and] spoke of world peace and ... ability of solving inter[national] problems by peaceful mea[ns ...] was quoted as laying emph[asis on] Mr Stalin's and the Russia[n peo]ple's ardent wish for p[eace, a] theme which has been give[n] prominence in the Russia[n press] for several days.

Correction

The appointments as ... and promotions to senior ... printed under the head[ing] Ulster in University N[ews on] March 14 should have ... under Lancaster Univers[ity].

Science report

Obesity: Enzyme deficiency in mice

Mice carrying an inborn defect that makes them obese may provide clues to why some people become fat whereas others remain thin no matter how much they eat. One contributing factory may be that people differ in the efficiency with which they use the energy in their food, to fuel metabolic processes that dissipate it as heat on the one hand, or store it in fat, on the other. Obese mice are very poor heat producers and are abnormally susceptible to cold. Work in America has pin-pointed an enzyme deficiency that appears to underlie that defective thermogenesis and also explains their obesity.

Increased heat production in response to cold is normally regulated by the action of hormones stimulate particular metabolic reactions resulting in increased respiration and heat production. Dr David York (on leave from Southampton University), Dr George Bray and Dr Yaichiro Yukimore of the department of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, have found that an enzyme catalysing one of those reactions is present at a much lower concentration in obesse mice compared with normal lean mice.

The enzyme is one of the class of enzymes (ATPases) that split the energy-rich compound ATP, releasing its energy for useful work. The particular ATPase involved in regulating thermogenesis catalyses the transport of sodium into cells. That reaction consumes ATP, stimulating an increase in respiration to replenish the cell's ATP stocks and, in the process, generating heat. In normal animals cold provokes the production of thyroid hormones that increase the production of that ATPase.

Dr York and his colleagues wanted to determine whether the lack of that AatPse in genetically obese mice was due to a defect in that aspect of thyroid function or in the ATPase itself. They found that if they inactivated the thyroid gland of normal mice the level of that ATPase in the liver, for example, dropped considerably but could be restored by injections of thyroid hormones.

In genetically obese mice, however, giving extra thyroid hormones had no effect on the levels of that particular ATPase even though the levels of other enzymes in the liver that are responsive to thyroid hormones were affected. So the authors conclude that the enzyme deficiency is probably due to a genetically determined defect in the enzyme itself which renders it inactive or very inefficient. The virtual absence of the enzyme would enable the mice to use their food more efficiently.

Human obesity undoubtedly presents a more complicated picture and has many contributing factors, but by showing that a simple defect in one crucial enzyme can have such wide physiological effects, Dr York and his colleagues have pointed to one area that might repay study.

By Nature-Times News Service.
Source: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 74, 477; 1978.
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VENEZUELA

As the Prince of Wales begins an official visit this Special Report examines an ambitious country where falling oil revenues have restrained expansion plans but which still offers wide opportunities for British business

Opec pays lip-service to Pérez pacesetting initiative

Roger Vielvoye

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) has, since it captured the attention of the world with a rapid series of increases in crude oil prices during the 1973-74 supply crisis, cast itself in the role of the leader of the Third World. It is a role to which certain members pay lip service, but one that is not pursued with any apparent conviction by many of the members.

In the past 18 months, however, Venezuela has, both inside and outside the organization, attempted to redefine Opec's role as a source of aid for the developing countries and had to reconcile this new role with the same time has emphasized its own commitment to the poorer nations.

The campaign culminated in the fiftieth ministerial conference of the oil exporting countries in Caracas just before Christmas when President Carlos Andrés Pérez made a surprise plea for the organization to implement a 7 per cent rise in the price of crude oil and devote the proceeds for one year to paying off some of the World's $180,000m debts.

Although President Pérez used the occasion—though, as is usual on such occasions, a select delegation was present—for a short welcoming address by the host head of state, to unveil his proposals somewhat to the embarrassment of the assembled ministers who were unprepared for a long and technical statement that would be difficult for them to assimilate before.

Many Opec observers feel that the President's initiative was ill-timed and certainly caught the other 12 heads of state largely unaware, although their heads of delegation had been hastily informed.

The secret of what the opening speech would contain was close to the organization's chest, but it is said that after trying for days to bring about a consensus on the pricing question between ministers arrived for the Caracas meeting, President Pérez and his advisers would have been aware that the forces in favour of extending the freeze on oil prices—Saudi Arabia and Iran—were strong enough to force their views on the rest, few of whom were in a mood to increase prices and then give the proceeds away.

With the declining dollar eating away at the value of oil revenues, the majority of members wanted a 5 to 7 per cent price rise to ensure sufficient funds for their domestic investment programmes. Ten of the 13 Opec members, including Venezuela, are now net borrowers of investment funds.

Observers are still trying to establish why Venezuela's strategy was blown so far off course. It has been said that after the considerable success that President Pérez and his oil minister Señor Valentin Hernandez Acosta have had in healing the rift in the Opec ranks caused by two-tier pricing, they had become over-confident. The possibility also exists that the scare stories of the December meeting being postponed rather than being the subject of another unseemly wrangle over prices could have pushed the President into what he saw as a compromise.

Final decision avoided public rebuff

Rather than give President Pérez a public rebuff by doing absolutely nothing, the ministers devised a face-saving operation. While they ignored his plea for a price increase to be devoted to helping the Third World—in fact they failed to agree among themselves, and by default allowed the six-month price freeze to continue certainly until the middle of the year and probably until the start of 1979—in the final communiqué they decided to hold further consultations "to make new efforts towards strengthening the solidarity among the developing nations on the establishment of a new economic order".

Since then President Pérez's idea has dropped quietly into limbo. The more influential members of the organization are still concerned about how the pricing question will evolve throughout the rest of the year. Another ministerial meeting has been called for mid-June and it is expected that the price freeze will be extended for another six months.

Recently Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, when asked what proportion of any increase in oil prices should be devoted to helping the Third World in the way suggested by President Pérez, said no decision had been taken "but in any case we are opposed to any increase in oil prices".

Immediately after the Caracas meeting, there were hopes that Opec would convene an extraordinary ministerial conference to discuss the details of the President's proposals. The idea is still floating around in Opec circles but discussions are on an unofficial basis and it seems unlikely that there will be any special meeting. Informed Opec sources still feel it would be inadvisable to press the debt relief proposals during 1978. A number of members are bitter that their efforts to boost oil revenues to compensate even for the decline in the value of the dollar have been frustrated.

These countries will want to use the next increase, probably in 1979, entirely for domestic purposes, and in the meantime any help for the developing countries should come from the Opec Fund. A price increase devoted to the Third World is not ruled out but it would have to come much later—possibly in the early 1980s when it is hoped that the market for crude oil will be able to stand an additional price increase without producing a reciprocal slump in demand.

Whether or not Venezuela was right to have chosen last December's meeting in Caracas to tackle the problems of servicing Third World debts, the question of how the Third World is to survive with such massive financial commitments to the industrialized world is very real and growing all the time.

As President Pérez pointed out in his opening speech, the developing countries that do not produce oil increased their debts from $40,000m in 1973 to $180,000m in 1977. Ten years ago the proportion of debt in the private banking sector was only 20 per cent. It is now 40 per cent of £180,000m. This means that nearly half of the debt servicing comes from very expensive monies supplied by the commercial banks.

Had President Pérez's proposal been accepted the Third World's debts would have been reduced by $7,000m to $11,000m. Venezuelan sources conceded that this was not a really significant amount and the administrative difficulties in deciding which countries qualified for debt relief and by how much would have been formidable.

According to the Venezuelans, the objective of the President's proposals was to set an example to the nations to whom the Third World is in debt. The President was evidently much impressed by Sweden's action in cancelling its debts to the Third World, although some Opec sources think it strange that he did not reinforce this action by cancelling Venezuela's own debts from other South American countries.

Cancelling debts is not an act of charity or a gift, he said. It is a clever business deal through which new roads for international trade could be opened, rescuing the world economy from one of its weaknesses.

The author is Energy Correspondent, The Times.



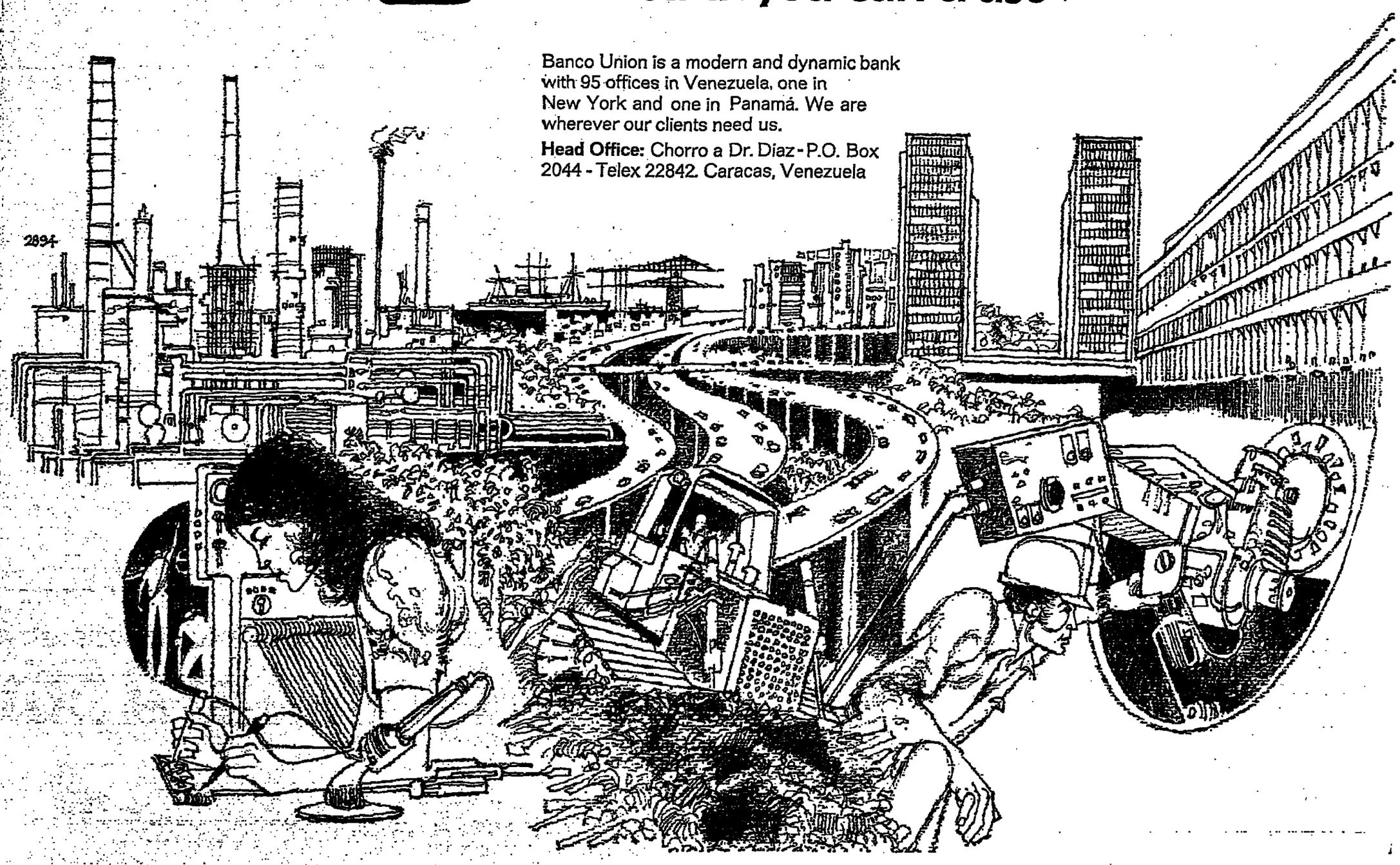


Maintenance at an oil installation in north-west Venezuela, and (right) politics on a lamppost in Caracas.

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First dividends on farming investment

by Peter Godfrey

"We have built 12,000km of rural roads in the past four years, *but we need more.* We have created 400,000 tons of agricultural storage space throughout the country, but we need more."

Dr Gustavo Pinto Cohen, the third Minister of Agriculture under the Pérez *administration to grapple* with the under-development of Venezuela's farming sector, characterizes his major difficulties as the building of a satisfactory network of services for farms and the growing pains that accom*pany attempts at rapid agri*cultural expansion.

Dr Cohen, an alert and energetic agronomist who became Minister of Agriculture last year, has some cause for satisfaction. Last year Venezuela had a record harvest, and agricultural *production* totalled Bs13,000m at current prices, an increase of 11 per cent over 1976.

The increase is less impressive than it appears, because the weather had played havoc with the 1976 crop, severe drought being followed by flooding, and had prompted an unprecedented influx of food imports which are still at a high level. It does appear, however, that the large quantities of money which the Government has poured into the agricultural sector in its aim to make the development of farming an economic—and political—priority, are finally beginning to pay off.

The increase in crop production of 19 per cent in 1977 is particularly worthy of note, while cattle, dairy, poultry and fish farming increased at an average rate of 5 per cent.

Agriculture constitutes a little under 10 per cent of public investment in Venezuela's fifth national plan. President Pérez, who in his election campaign had declared his wish to be "a president for the rural man", has constantly reemphasized the importance of expanding the traditionally backward farming sector, depressed by the trend of migration to the towns which has left only 18.5 per cent of the country's workforce in rural areas.

Venezuela is not blest with rich soil—about 20 per cent of the country's land area is under cultivation or used as pasture. The only traditional major export crops are cocoa and coffee.

The highest increase in agricultural production last year was in cultivation of cereals—70 per cent greater than in 1976. A record total of 800 million kilos of maize was produced, compared with a previous highest figure of 713 million kilos; *rice production of more than* 500 million kilos was well up on the record harvest of 1975 of 363 million.

The sorghum harvest of 326 million kilos was almost three times as high as the previous best figure, and Dr Cohen expects it to be higher than 500 million tons this year.

Crucial to the Government's drive for agricultural growth has been the much more ready availability of financial incentives and loans to farmers than anything they had known before. Many debts incurred *before 1974 were waived*, two agricultural banks were set up, and a fund worth Bs4,000m was set up last year to help farmers who had suffered losses in the drought and flood of 1976. Most important, commercial banks have been required since 1976 to assign a minimum of 20 per cent of their credits to the agricultural sector.

Controls to ensure that all the money lent found its way into agricultural production were at first less than watertight, and a proportion of it is known to have ended up as illegal investment in property, industry and overseas spending. However, this proportion is now thought to be less than 5 per cent, and is under closer vigilance although, as Dr Cohen noted: "It is impossible to claim that 100 per cent of credits for agricultural development arrive." Credits granted through the agricultural and commercial banks, and from the Government's agricultural credit fund, totalled Bs2,118m last year, a slight increase on 1976, *and are expected to double* this year.

Despite the financial incentives available, some agricultural experts feel that farming in Venezuela is not yet a profitable enough occupation to attract more people. More than half the *present farming population* is primarily involved in subsistence agriculture, in part a reflection of the Pérez Government's policy of controlling the prices of agricultural produce.

"There is a tremendous need for a price structure *which leaves money to be* made", Mr Henry Loud, agricultural adviser to the Venezuelan-American Chamber of Commerce, said.

The view is shared, not surprisingly, by the National Confederation of Agricultural Producers (Fedeagro), *which represents 110 affiliated* associations throughout Venezuela.

Fedeagro has been agitating for an agricultural reform whereby farmers who work state-owned land—estimated by the organization to total 80 per *cent—would be given* ownership of the land, and a consequent incentive to increase their investment.

Fedeagro welcomes the efforts of the Pérez Government, however, to put Venezuelan agriculture on the economic map, particularly *through financial credits.* But it believes that the present farming area of 1,700,000 hectares should be increased to two million, that the country's network of 24 km of trunk roads a 1,000 sq km is still far too small, and that freer agricultural price mechanisms *should operate to offset the* rapidly rising cost of agricultural machinery and equipment.

The farmers also want a say in government policy on the importing of food, which has reached new heights in the wake of the *crop failure* and decimation of livestock in 1976. The import of agricultural products increased steeply from 5.8 per cent of total imports in 1975 to 13 per cent the following year, costing the country Ps3,500m. Fedeagro estimates that last year's food imports totalled about Bs4,400m, but official figures have yet to be produced.

The emergency air-freighting of beef, eggs, poultry and vegetables (by-passing the congestion of Venezuelan ports at considerable expense) continued to some degree throughout last year. Import tariffs were waived on 30 stable foodstuffs, and imported food is estimated to constitute nearly a quarter of the country's total consumption.

Beyond the emergency airlift, Venezuela undertook an extensive programme of importing calves from Central America (also by air) for breeding purposes.

Coordination of agricultural development is still a weak spot in the Government's ambitious programme. While it has done much to create a suitable climate for agricultural prosperity, areas such as research and education still lag behind. A network of country agents established in the 1950s to give technical advice and knowledge to farmers still nominally exists, but the agents largely confine themselves to offices in the towns which are poles of development in Venezuela's attempt to decentralize the population from Caracas into small urban centres.

It is difficult for farmers to obtain technical advice and research information, particularly on the crucial subjects of fertilizers and pesticides.

As it is, the use of fertilizers has doubled over the past five years to reach 460,000 tons, and is expected to be as high as 700,000 tons this year. Comparable leaps are planned for many areas of produce in what promises to be a telling year for Venezuelan agriculture. As in industrial areas, the country welcomes foreign investment in activities which will stimulate agricultural production—like industry, the more so the farther its own resources are stretched.

The British company, Tate and Lyle, for instance, is installing a Bs22m turnkey sugar factory in the state of Portuguesa, *the fourth con*tract it has received from the Venezuela Government in connexion with the processing of sugar cane.

The natural way to cheap minerals

by Edward Townsend

The torrents of water tumbling through the massive Guri dam on Venezuela's Caroni river symbolizes the arrival of major new opportunities for the country, including the chance profitably to exploit the nation's vast untapped resources of bauxite.

The ore is one of the most common in the world, but its subsequent reduction to alumina and aluminium consumes enormous amounts of energy to the extent that the major aluminium smelting countries are now reluctant because *of increasing power costs to* build new capacity.

Cheap hydroelectricity from the Guri and other projects, however, will provide the Venezuelans with a power source whose cost makes production of aluminium, regarded still as the wonder metal of modern times, an extremely attractive proposition.

Apart from wishing to exploit to the full their own natural resources, developing nations like Venezuela which have rich deposits of bauxite in recent years have become acutely aware of the advantages of integrating into aluminium smelting.

This has become possible only with the bauxite producing countries' realization that the ore was being sold at prices that bore no relation to the international price of aluminium ingot.

The subsequent imposition of bauxite levies, nationalization by countries like Jamaica of bauxite lands, and the formation of the protectionist International Bauxite Association have provided the impetus.

And aluminium seems set on an expansion course in the long-term. Greater use in motor vehicles, particularly cars, is expected in the next four years with the container packaging industries also consuming vastly increased quantities.

A recent survey of the aluminium industry by Amalgamated Metal Corporation shows that world smelter capacity will increase by 23 per cent in 1976-80 with a rise of 255 per cent in South America to 608,000 tonnes. Over-capacity is certain to be a feature of the industry by 1980 but it will be those companies with high energy costs and aging smelters which first feel the pinch.

Recently discovered bauxite reserves in Venezuela are estimated officially at 500 million tons, but could be as much as 1,500 million tons. Exploitation has been delayed for political reasons and Venezuela, while not wishing to be without its own strategic source of bauxite and alumina to feed its growing aluminium industry, also feels under an obligation to its Caribbean neighbours whose economies are closely tied to bauxite.

Jamaica, Guyana, and Surinam see Venezuela as a natural market for their bauxite and alumina and perhaps only in the realms of joint projects will the problem be solved.

Meanwhile, Venezuela continues to supply its, at present, small aluminium smelting industry with imports. At the end of 1977 the government development agency, Venezuela Corporation of the Guayana (CVG), signed a contract with Jamaica to buy one million tons of alumina.

Jamaica saw the deal as "the biggest single financial breakthrough since the bauxite levy of 1974". Under the contract, Venezuela will take 150,000 tons of alumina a year, the first shipment due to arrive this July.

Whether such a deal will be made again is uncertain. Alusuisse, the big Swiss-based aluminium company, is building an alumina plant in Venezuela costing $560m and with an annual capacity of a million tons. Alusuisse is providing its technological and engineering skills and designs and will have a 20 per cent share in the project, the remainder held by CVG.

Alumina from the plant will supply Venezuela's established aluminium smelter, Aluminio del Caroni (Alcasa), which is half owned by Reynolds, of the United States, and half by CVG. Alumina at present comes from Reynolds's plant in Texas.

According to latest world statistics, Alcasa's capacity will be raised to 120,000 tonnes (50,000 tonnes in 1976) by the end of this year and full output is expected in 1979.

Far more significant, however, is the establishment of a new company, Venalum, which is building at Mantanzas the world's biggest aluminium reduction plant. The smelter is forecast to produce 50,000 tonnes this year from a capacity of 70,000 tonnes rising to an output in 1982 of 270,000 tonnes and an eventual capacity of 400,000 tonnes.

CVG is providing 80 per cent of the capital for Venalum, the remainder being put up by a consortium of Japanese companies. Showa Denko (7 per cent), Kobe Steel (4 per cent), Mitsubishi (4 per cent), Sumitomo (4 per cent) and Marubeni (1 per cent).

It is against this background that Venezuela has little choice but to develop its own bauxite and alumina industries. The understandable efforts of Jamaica and other members of the IBA to raise the price of bauxite can only accelerate this process as Venezuela seeks to protect the profitability of its smelters.

As well as using its oil revenues to finance the aluminium industry, Venezuela also now has the financial muscle to exploit its vast coal reserves and provide a second national source of energy. The big coalfields of the Zulia basin are said to have almost inexhaustible available reserves of 10,000 million tons and although the deposits have been known about for 100 years it is only in recent years that Venezuela has had the field surveyed.

By 1980, opencast mining in Zulia is expected to double Venezuela's coal production of 60,000 tons. Output should begin to rise rapidly from about 1982 when an underground pit is opened with a capacity of two million tonnes a year.

The development of coal reserves, and the complex services that will be needed, provide Venezuela with a long-term series of projects that could be financed from the oil income. It represents Venezuela's desire to become less dependent on oil in the decades to come and is coupled with a firm intention that none of the coal will ever be exported.

Huge expansion in steelmaking aims at self-sufficiency

by Peter Hill

First tenders for the construction of one of the largest steelworks on the South American continent are scheduled to be issued by the Venezuelan Government in the next few weeks. Consultancy companies, plant makers and steel makers from all parts of the world have been flying in and out of Caracas for months assessing the project, lobbying and preparing their bids for this latest demonstration of the Pérez Government's determination to lay down its own manufacturing industry base and become self-sufficient in steel.

The steelworks project in the Zulia region, to the south of Lake Maracaibo, is being accompanied by a huge expansion of steelmaking capacity designed to lift the country's crude steelmaking capability to more than six million tonnes a year by the early part of the next decade.

Venezuela's planned expansion of its steel capacity forms part of the huge development in steel which is being considered by other countries in South America, notably Brazil, and forms part of the thrust in steel which the less developed countries are making—at a time when the steel industry internationally is faced with chronic recessionary difficulties exacerbated by overcapacity and poor demand. Japan, Europe and the United States industries are being hit by recessionary currents so grave that labour cutbacks, redundancies, closures and huge losses are now a familiar feature of the steel scene.

In the three traditional steelmaking areas of the world anti-crisis plans have been implemented to shield steelmakers from the chill draughts of recession. But while the Venezuelan steel *development* plans are likely to reduce still further the market opportunities for the traditional steelmakers, the expansion—at least in the medium term—is not expected to lead to further disruption of markets since the emphasis of the development is very much on satisfying home market *needs* where increasing industrialization is leading to a surge in demand for steel over the next 15 to 20 years.

Venezuela is a considerable supplier of high grade iron ore, with production about 18 million tonnes a year and *most of the output* being shipped to steelmakers in the United States and Europe. The country's reserves of iron ore are sufficient to produce at a level of some 20 million tonnes a year for the next century and in the future the bulk *of ore production* will be channelled into domestic steelworks.

Over the next 15 years the aim of the Pérez Government is to boost domestic steelmaking to some 15 million tonnes a year financed from the country's oil revenues and through loans raised on the international market.

For the past three years and a half construction teams have been involved in the expansion of the steelworks operated by the state-owned Siderurgica del Orinoco (Sidor) in the south-east of Venezuela—a project costing more than $3,500m. The project will lift the capacity of the works from 1,200,000 tonnes to five million tonnes.

The Sidor facility is being built alongside existing steelmaking facilities and will draw its ore supplies from state-owned ore mines near by. Facilities which are to be included in the Sidor development include a pelletizing and lime plant, a battery of direct reduction plants which enable ore to be reduced directly to iron in pellet form for feeding into electric arc *furnaces*. In addition the plan provides for the erection of six continuous casting units to produce rods and wire and also provides for an expansion of hot and cold rolling mills.

Meanwhile, the attention of steelmakers *and plant*makers is focused on the Zulia steelworks project with which President Pérez is closely identified. Last March, in a message to Congress he said that the coal and steel plans for the region were designed to reshape the economy of the country and promote regional autonomy. The plan has been criticized for being too ambitious but the President has emphasized that the outlook for iron and steel demand over the next 10 to 15 years is such that failure to invest in domestic production facilities would mean a growing dependence on imports of steel from foreign producers.

By 1980 demand for steel products in Venezuela is expected to increase to some four million tonnes a year rising to 6,500,000 tonnes by 1985. Further ahead, forecasts suggest a demand of some nine million tonnes a year in 1990, with nearly 13 million tonnes in 1995. Development and expansion of the Sidor site, it is argued, would have produced a shortfall of nearly eight million tonnes in 1995 and for this reason the Government is confident that the Zulia project will be financially and economically viable.

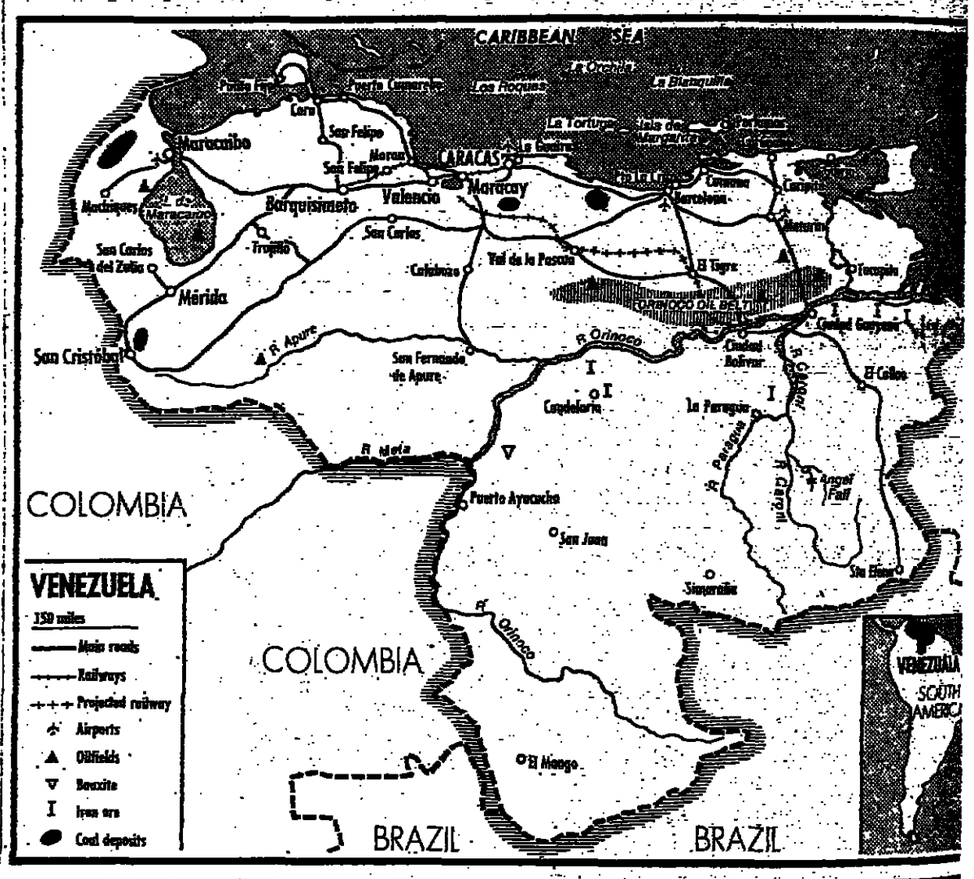
The Zulia works will produce steel by the conventional blast furnace route—rather than direct reduction and electric arc furnace—and will have associated sintering, coking and continuous casting facilities. In the plant will have annual capacity of 1,2 tonnes producing bars, rods and steel sections. *first* phase is due brought on stream in and in the longer annual capacity will lifted to five million ton

British Steel Corpora subsidiary, BSC (Ov Services), last summe a £12m management tract for the Zulia pl and the British con Davy International, wh leading an interna consortium of compani a strong contender fo steel plant venture, wh estimated to cost $2,00 the initial phase, *which* recently secto large steelworks count Brazil, is offering Ven financial, engineering, struction, equipment a and manpower trainin the project and, acc to Davy executives, training element cou *crucial to the* decision merchant bankers, M Grenfell, are closely volved in the Davy bid.

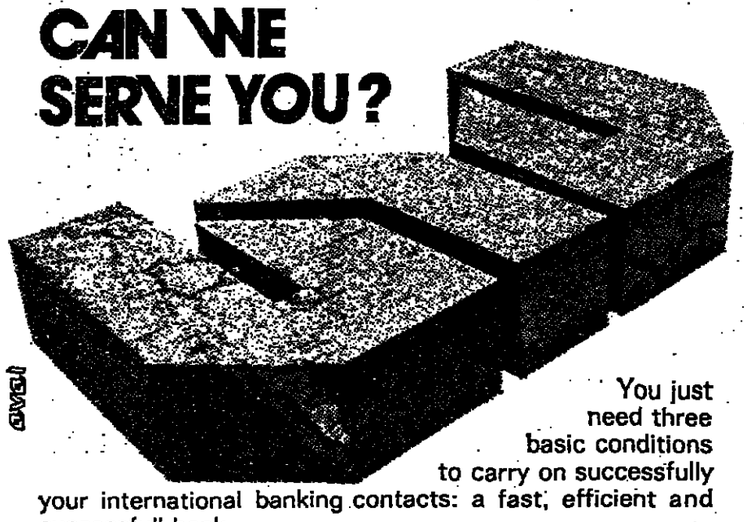
Since the plant was nally conceived there been changes in the ship of the venture. A the Zulia plant was totally state-owned b now appears that the ezuelan Government sages the project be mixed-capital venture the state holding a m ling 51 per cent interes the balance held by p investors who are lik be foreign.

However, the final breakdown may not revised after the tenders for the p particularly since it that the proposed 4 cent holding for p foreign investors may high for political reas

The author is industri respondent, The Time



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Hard fight for valuable hydroelectric contracts

The world's top manufacturers of electrical generation equipment have been competing in recent years to win some of the substantial rewards resulting from Venezuela's ambitious multi-million dollar plans for hydroelectric power.

Led by the Americans and the Japanese they have fought hard and long for the lucrative contracts to supply the generators and turbines which form the heart of projects designed more than to double in the next decade Venezuela's entire output of hydroelectricity.

At the centre of it all is the swift-flowing and as yet partly tamed Caroni river and, *more particularly*, the Guri dam.

The Caroni rises in the south close to the borders of Brazil and Guyana, but the bit that has grabbed the attention of the Venezuelans—and world equipment suppliers—is a 220km stretch in which the river falls a total of 240 metres. The river carries little silt and has natural canyons—ideal dam building conditions.

And the amount of money being spent by Venezuela to harness the power of those falls is equally breathtaking. The first stage of the Guri dam cost a mere $300m while the next two stages will result in a bill of approximately $2,500m.

The Guri dam, the focus of Venezuela's hydro schemes, is proof of the nation's efforts not to be dependent upon oil for its long-term energy needs. The reliable source of hydroelectricity now being developed is indicative not only of the wealth of natural resources on which Venezuela can call but also the ability to use the huge oil revenues to finance industrial expansion while relying on water power to satisfy a large part of the domestic energy requirements.

Already, hydroelectricity is a crucial factor in the establishment of huge energy consuming industries like aluminium, iron and steel which are being expanded rapidly in Ciudad Guayana.

The highly successful government agency in Guayana, CVG, which has the majority stake in these industries, is responsible, through its subsidiary, Electrificación del Caroni, for all the Caroni hydro projects. In the next decade it is estimated that 40 per cent of the electricity produced by the river will be powering CVG factories.

With nuclear power unlikely to be available on a large scale domestically until the end of the century, the booming Venezuelan industrial base will rely extensively on water-generated power.

It is reckoned that by 1990 the four completed or projected dams on the Caroni will have the capacity to generate 13,000MW. Almost as much power could be available in the same time span from other Venezuelan rivers.

The current Venezuelan development plan envisages total installed capacity for electric power of 13,627kW in 1980 and a greater degree of integration of transmission and distribution facilities throughout the country. During the plan period, new investment totalling Bs17,677m is expected to come from the public sector. Britain's General Electric Company is the sort of enterprise that could benefit.

Only in the past 10 years has Venezuela's electric power industry begun to grow rapidly. In 1976, including water power, it accounted for 1.2 per cent of gross domestic product.

By the end of that year, the country had a total installed generating capacity of 5,176,000kW. Of this, just under 60 per cent was state owned, a quarter by private utilities and 12.1 per cent by industrial companies.

The Guri hydro project was started in 1963 and the dam is being built in phases which allow the finished sections to become operational in advance of total completion.

Despite adjustments to the original cost estimates, the dam is still on schedule for completion in 1988. The high industrial demand for electricity in fact led to the first stage being brought forward by three years from 1980 although this has proved ambitious and the additional four power units planned for phase one are not yet in service.

The dam's present installed capacity is 1,650 MW and in 1976 production totalled 9,916,000 megawatt hours. The four new generators will raise capacity to 2,065,000 kW and the first phase also involves the construction of a high voltage interconnexion with Caracas.

The second stage of Guri, originally planned to come on stream in 2000, advanced to 1987 and now put back a year, involves raising the dam by 50 metres and the installation of another 10 power units to boost total capacity to more than nine million kW.

Most of the civil engineering work on the Guri dam is being undertaken by Venezuelan enterprises and they are expected to have completed the construction by 1982. Most of the companies supplying equipment for stage one have won repeat orders, a combination of the attraction of low tenders and previous experience of working on the Caroni schemes.

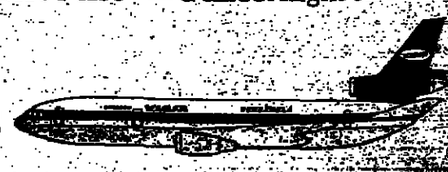
Japan's Hitachi, which supplied the 10 turbines for stage one of Guri, will provide the first four turbines for the second Several Japanese, A and European m turers were in the r to supply generating ment and the phas contracts have gone eral Electric of Westinghouse of the States and Mitsubi Japan. Transformers come from Italy.

Financing of public like the vast hydro schemes is being co largely with internal and loans rather tha the precious oil reven

In January this ye ezuela went to the national capital mark a $1,200m medium-te dicated loan, part o will be used for t cation projects. The loan carries an inter of ¼ per cent above inter-bank offered ra follows a similar Eurocurrency loan interest rate of 1 p in 1977. In the case Guri dam project, th considerable sum of finance involved, larly in Japan.

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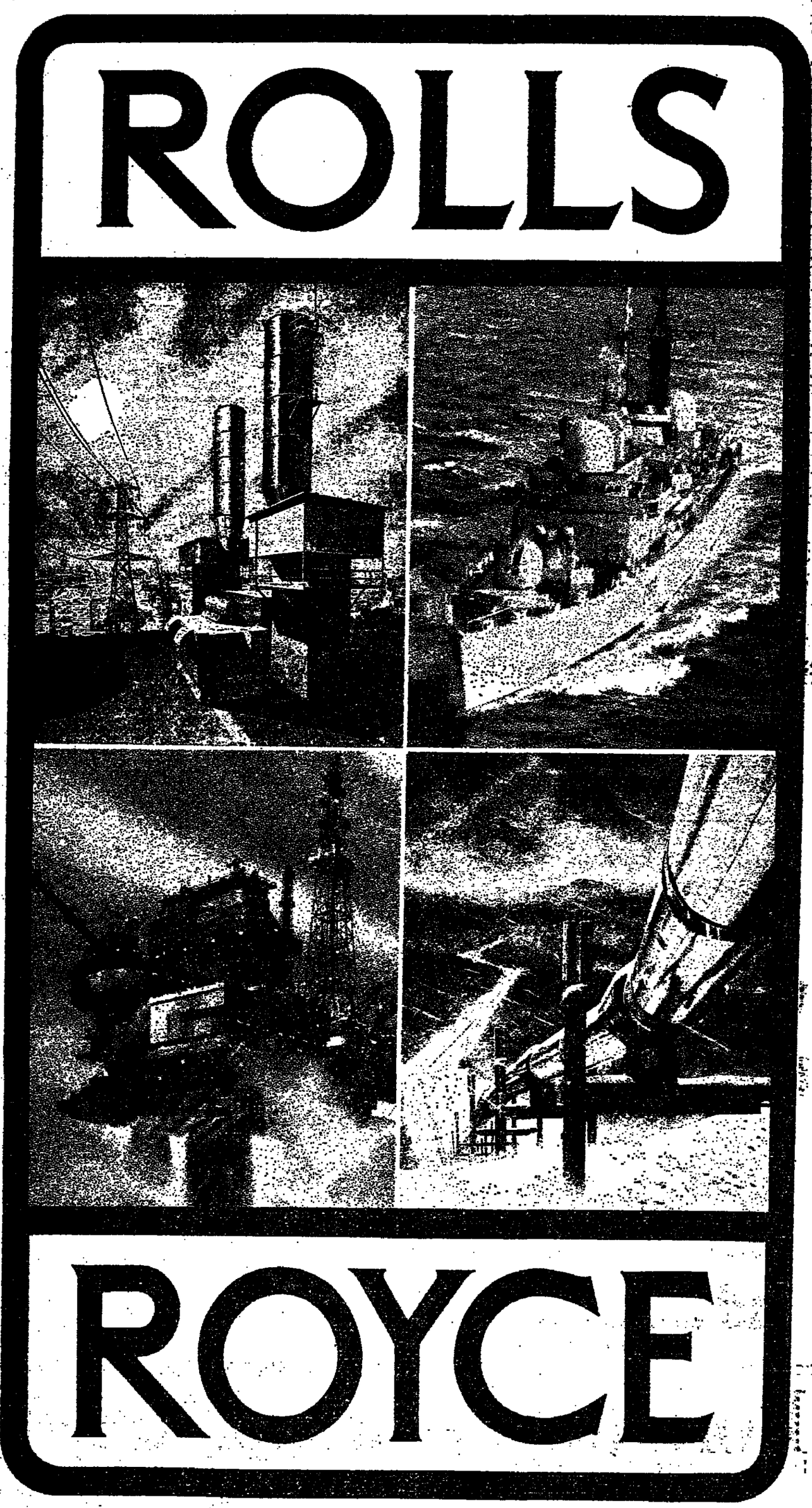
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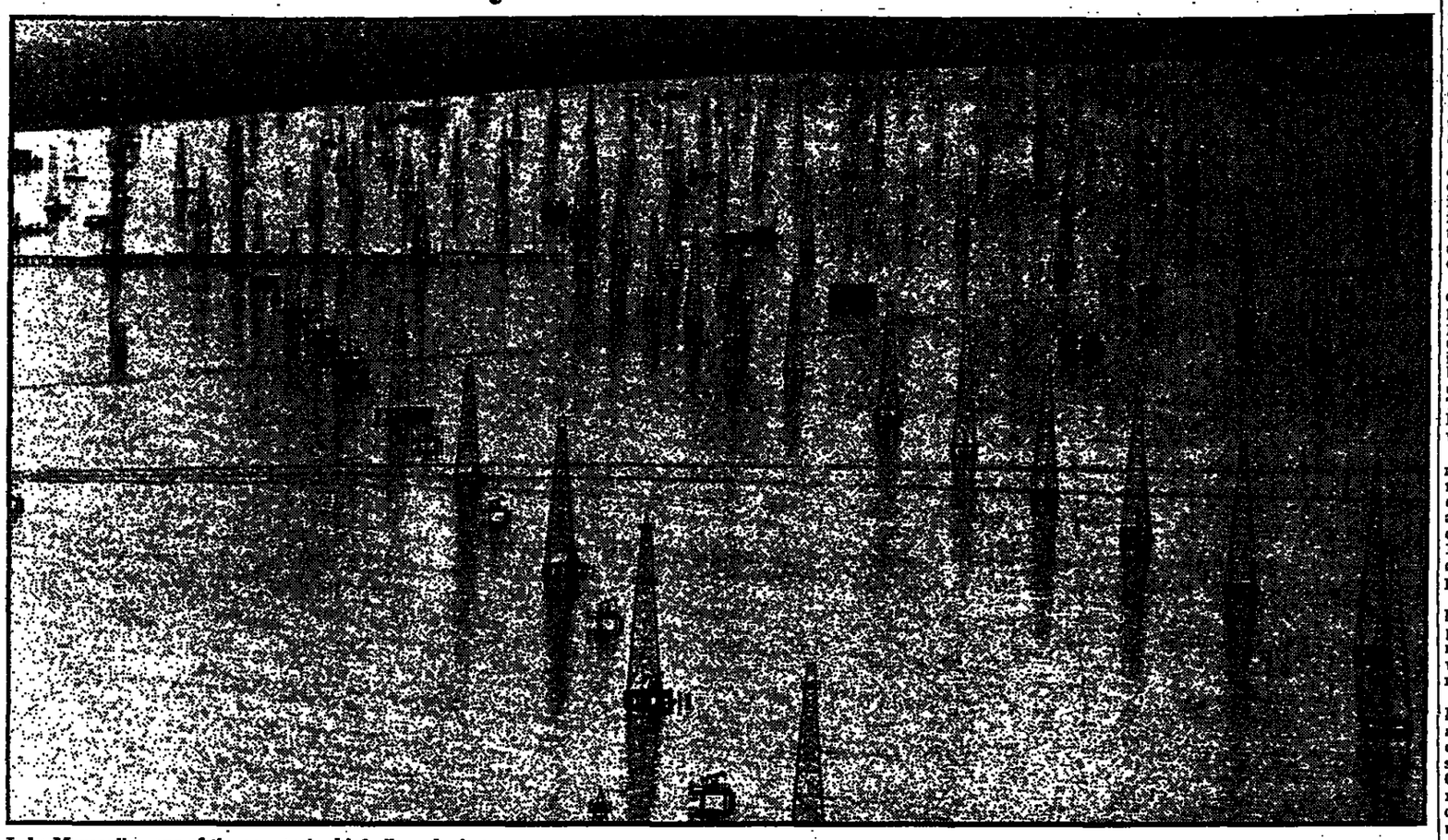


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For further information in Venezuela: Sir Raymond Smith, K.B.E., Edificio Las Americas, Calle Real de Sabana Grande, Caracas 105.

Roger Vielvoye, Energy Correspondent, *The Times*, explains why huge reserves must wait to be exploited and describes an ambitious future for Petroven

New techniques needed to pump heavy oil to surface



Lake Maracaibo, one of the country's chief oil-producing areas.

A few kilometres north of the Orinoco river is a 650 km belt, on average about 70 km wide, that contains perhaps the biggest accumulation of oil in the world. According to Venezuelan government estimates, under the 45,000 sq kilometre zone lies 700,000m barrels of heavy crude oil.

The oil belt contains more than proved oil reserves from more conventional sources—642,000 million barrels—and dwarfs Saudi Arabia's 150,000 million barrels of reserves. But it will be a long time before Venezuela will be in a position to exploit these heavy oil reservoirs on a large scale and they probably will not make a large contribution to world oil supplies until the 1990s or the turn of the century, when the large Middle Eastern reserves will be well past their prime.

Neither will the Orinoco reserves be able to make a contribution to world supplies or the Venezuelan economy without investment of millions of dollars. Venezuela is well aware of the difficulties that its greatest asset involves. As its name implies the oil is extremely heavy, and because of its thickness it does not flow as easily as crude oils found in other parts of Venezuela or in the Middle East.

Unlike the Canadian tar sands, which have to be mined and the oil extracted from the results of the mining process, the Venezuelan heavy oil can be pumped out of the ground. Only a small percentage of the total oil underground will be recovered unless new techniques are evolved to make the oil thinner before it is pumped to the surface.

Techniques are being developed, but the difficulties do not end there. The crude also has a high metal content so it must be specially treated before it can be fed into refineries built to handle conventional types of crude. Again, Petroven, the state oil company, through its technical agreements with the oil companies that previously held concessions in Venezuela, is working on a number of ways of turning the Orinoco oil into a marketable commodity.

The former concession holders first uncovered the heavy oil belt in the late 1930s. At first it was thought the whole area was a vast underground sea of bituminous crude that was of little value. Between 1959 and 1970 there were further attempts to evaluate the size of the heavy oil belt, but the widespread availability of better quality oils at much lower production costs, did not provide any great incentive to make a thorough investigation. The 14 wells drilled during this period threw little new light on the subject.

Then in 1970, CVP, at that time the Venezuelan state oil company, moved on to the scene for the first time, and undertook an intensive geophysical programme. Using a grid system it covered the entire area and defined the likely boundaries of the reserves. Three years later a larger scale programme started and 16 delineation wells were drilled. On top of this another 31 wells were drilled during 1974 and 1975 to complete the delineation programme.

The Venezuelan Ministry of Mines and Hydrocarbons feels that this programme has provided a more optimistic view of the future of the heavy oil belt. It showed that the oil got thinner in the more southerly zones close to the river but nowhere was the oil so thick that it could be regarded only as a bitumen.

All oils are classified under a system devised by the American Petroleum Institute (API). The lowest gravity oil in the belt was 8°API rising to 14°API in the more southerly parts. These figures compare with the highly prized light oils from Africa and the North Sea that are rated over 40°API.

A spokesman for Petroven said that most of the crude was fluid and could be extracted by pumping. An experimental well 12 km north of the Orinoco had produced 80 barrels of oil a day using a pump and sucker arm without the need for the oil to be diluted first. By using this basic technique it is estimated that at least 10 per cent of the reserves in place could be recovered.

Experiments are in progress to inject both steam and gases into the reservoirs to make the oils flow easily for pumping and it seems likely that any full-scale development programme would use a large number of steam injection wells.

Apart from being heavy, the Orinoco heavy crude has a high sulphur content—between 2 and 5 per cent—and a high proportion of vanadium and nickel. The high sulphur content makes the crude unacceptable to refiners who must meet tough environmental standards for their products while they are not prepared to accept too high a metal content as this accelerates corrosion in the pipes of furnaces or boilers and can poison catalysts used in refining.

There are techniques available for removing both sulphur and metals but the need to make the oil thinner in any pre-refining process has also to be taken into account. It is possible to achieve this through the addition of solvents obtained from lighter crudes, but Petroven has decided to go for more advanced techniques.

At present about 100,000 barrels a day of heavy oil are produced from the Orinoco region, but it is used mainly for making asphalt and bituminous products and commands a price of only $9 a barrel against the $12 for other heavy crudes from other parts of Venezuela and the Middle East. Using primitive techniques and accepting a low rate of recovery from the total reserves, Petroven estimates that production could be increased to more than 500,000 barrels a day by 1985.

But if the output is to top a million barrels a day, Petroven accepts that some pre-refining will be required. It has earmarked $450m for three different plants that will experiment with three different methods of pre-refining. Until these prototypes are working effectively and the results have been fully analysed, it is unlikely that there will be any moves to expand production from the Orinoco region.

The pre-refining centres will be built on the oilfields and the treated crude exported to the refineries either in other parts of Venezuela or abroad. In a paper on the implications for the area of large-scale heavy oil developments, Señor Francisco Gutierrez, a director of Petroven, points out that agriculture and livestock rearing will be expanded alongside the oil facilities. New railways and roads will also cross the region bringing other development in their wake.

An office has been established to coordinate all the state bodies and ministries which have an interest in the future of the area, so that "the organized planning of all the regional programmes will lead to an integrated oil development which will be most beneficial to the interest of the nation".

From land and lake to offshore waters

Petroleos de Venezuela (Petroven), the Venezuelan state oil company, is about to embark on its most ambitious venture since it took control of the country's oil industry from the multinational oil giants in 1976. It will involve moving the search for new reserves of oil from the land and lake concessions previously held by the foreign companies into almost untouched offshore waters.

For Petroven it is an important and expensive leap forward. Until now the state company has been running and expanding the considerable facilities established under the previous regime. But the oil companies had never ventured offshore and, therefore, did not leave Petroven with an experienced offshore exploration and production unit. Everything will have to be built up from scratch.

Help can be expected from the companies hired to operate the exploration rigs and technical aid agreement with the former concession holders can also be used. Petroven acknowledges that it will be expensive breaking into the offshore business and this is reflected in the rapid expansion of its exploration budgets. In its first operating year Petroven spent $94m on exploration out of a total budget of $330m. In 1977 exploration work commanded $140m while the effort offshore in 1978 has helped to boost expected expenditure on exploration to $233m.

At one time Venezuela was the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' most prolific producer. As recently as 1970 output was averaging 3,700,000 barrels a day but over the following years production dropped steadily. In 1974 the Government ordered a further reduction to conserve oil in the reservoirs for the future. As a result, output is now running at an annual rate of about 2,300,000 barrels a day.

The main objective of the new exploration programme is to find more light and medium crudes and the initial indications are that the offshore reserves may fall into this category.

These forecasts are based on seismic work carried out over the past six to eight years and a limited drilling programme of 13 shallow wells. Optimistically, offshore reserves are put at 64,000 million barrels but this is based on rather scanty data and many oil industry sources feel it would be dangerous to make any serious predictions until a drilling programme had confirmed the initial indications.

If they were to prove to be close to the first estimates, Venezuela would have the potential to expand its production very considerably, although this must be the subject of lengthy political debate before any such move was made. The alternative would be to exploit these reserves slowly and ensure that Venezuela had a thriving oil industry well into the next century when crude oil will be at a premium.

The potential of the offshore areas can be judged by comparing the possible reserves with what has been discovered over the past 50 to 60 years. Onshore, 52,000 million barrels of recoverable reserves have been found, of which 34,000 million barrels have already been produced. The bulk of the remaining reserves is heavy oil. These figures do not include the extensive Orinoco heavy oil belt.

According to oil industry sources there are 12,000 million barrels of additional onshore reserves that might reasonably be exploitable and a further 36,000 million, given a fair share of luck, make a significant contribution.

Exploration given low priority

The Venezuelan oil industry has suffered during the 1970s from a lack of intensive exploration effort. Once it became clear to the international oil companies that they were going to have to face early reversion of their concessions, exploration for new oil was given a low priority. No one was keen to spend money on discovering new reserves that would benefit the state company after the takeover.

Last year General Rafael Alfonzo Ravard, president of Petroven, pointed out that the number of geologists and exploration engineers employed by the private companies in Venezuela had fallen from 800 to 150 at the time of the takeover. For Petroven, exploration for new reserves assumes a much greater importance than in some members of Opec, whose oilfields are in a much earlier stage of their development.

Venezuela's oil industry has its roots in the days of the free-for-all in concessions and exploration before the First World War. Many of its biggest fields are well past their prime and only keep pumping out crude with the help of expensive secondary and tertiary production methods. One result of this has been oil from established fields getting progressively heavier and therefore more difficult to sell on world markets.

All the 14 million hectares offshore are thought to be prospective but three areas are attracting most attention. The Golfo de la Vela and Golfo Triste are favoured because water depths rarely exceed 100 metres and the environmental conditions are good; Golfo de Paria has even shallower water generally below 30 metres, with equally good operating conditions. The areas known as Plataforma Central and Plataforma Margarita are less favoured as the water is deep—200 metres on one trough—with strong winds and currents making conditions more hazardous.

There is thought to be a considerable potential in the Plataforma Delta and the Orinoco Delta. The sea in these areas is rarely deeper than 100 metres, although there are often strong winds and currents. The main drawback is a boundary dispute with Trinidad. Another, this time with Colombia, is likely to delay the start of work in the Golfo de Venezuela despite the extremely favourable conditions.

Most of these areas will be subjected to renewed seismic investigation during 1978. Petroven has plans to shoot 14,245 km compared with 5,350 km last year and an increasing amount of this will be offshore. Initially the drilling programme will be a modest one. The company plans to drill nine wells, mostly in the shallower waters.

CVP, the state oil company until 1976 when it became an operating subsidiary of Petroven, will be working in the Golfo de la Vela, and Maraven—the old Shell company — and Lagoven, formerly Exxon—will be drilling in the Orinoco Delta.

Compared with the onshore programme of 66 new wells, the offshore effort is still small, but based on the results of these first deep wells, Petroven is expected to expand offshore work considerably in the future.

Britain's Offshore Supplies Office considers the Venezuelan offshore programme is an excellent opportunity for British firms to sell the skill they have gained in the North Sea. Although weather conditions are nowhere near as hazardous, once the shallow areas have been tackled the Venezuelans will have to move into much deeper water, needing operations on the scale of the North Sea.

In a report on prospects, the OSO says that the experience of British companies in the North Sea should stand them in good stead to contribute to Venezuela's offshore programme. But it warned them that the offshore operators, with the exception of CVP (the state oil company), have signed technical assistance contracts with the multinational oil companies and the scope for the provision of know-how will be restricted. The main opportunities appeared to lie in the provision of equipment and hardware of which Venezuela had little manufacturing capability.

The immediate requirement for the offshore programme will be drilling vessels. CVP is thought to be seeking a small jack-up and a small semi-submersible for the Golfo de la Vela. Lagoven and Maraven are both interested in drill ships or drilling barges and possibly also semi-submersibles. OSO says these plans are not yet final, but they expect these vessels would be required on long-term charter.

OSO adds that coupled to this, the exploration effort will need drilling support—supply boats, core analysis facilities, drilling muds, and chemicals—and the possible establishment of a supply base to service the offshore operations.

But it is the development phase that is likely to present the greatest opportunity to British industry. At present much of the onshore oil equipment is supplied from the United States as Venezuela produces very little of its own. OSO says that Venezuela wants to lessen its dependence on a sole source of supply and in future it will be seeking international bids.

The Government also wants to increase the amount of equipment manufactured locally but, the OSO report says, the extent to which this is possible depends on the industrial base and the Venezuelan equipment industry has not developed greatly from the assembly plant stage. It adds that there is growing interest by local businessmen, often with available capital, who want assistance from foreign manufacturers.

One British company is well placed to supply steel platform jackets in association with a local company, and other companies are actively pursuing the opportunities for designing and providing other platform requirements. There may also be opportunities for concrete structures either as production facilities or for offshore storage. Similar oportunities also exist for the supply of process plant, power generation equipment, material-handling equipment, telecommunications, safety equipment, valves, pumps and meters.

But the OSO has given a warning that British firms should not be lulled into thinking Venezuela is an easy market. Competition, mainly from the United States, Japan and other European countries is fierce.

Harmony in public and private

by Peter Godfrey

Few nations can lay claim to an economy in which both public and private sectors are thriving. Fewer still can say that the financial workings of each sector complement the other rather than providing the basis for an awkward marriage of mutual detractors.

When Venezuela announced plans to nationalize its oil and iron ore industries in 1975 the Government confirmed—in no uncertain terms—its preeminent role as motivator of the national economy.

Public sector spending increased dramatically from 39 per cent of gross domestic product in 1971 to 61 per cent at the end of 1975, and is estimated to have grown by a further 10 per cent during the following year. The Government's controlling hand over the economy was no longer in any doubt.

However, the far-reaching nationalization programme—the new state-owned Petroleos de Venezuela alone accounted for 74 per cent of government revenue in 1976—signalled the advent of an economic rather than political kind of socialism.

President Pérez's aim had been to wrest control—and profits—of Venezuela's primary sources of industrial wealth away from foreign, multinational companies.

The country's domestic business interests, while acknowledging their secondary financial power and standing in relation to the Government's newly-acquired riches, were subsequently called on to perform a vital role in the development and diversification of the economy.

Key role in advancement

The Venezuelan private sector was asked to provide 47 per cent of the nation's investment in its fifth national plan, a total of Bs105m, between 1976 and 1980. While macro-economic developments in production of oil, steel and hydro-electric power are beyond the private companies' resources, they play a key role in the advancement of manufacturing and service industries, agricultural supplies and housing, as well as the processing of some petroleum products.

The companies are offered substantial encouragement by the Pérez Government. "The public sector is helping private enterprise to develop through any number of incentives", Dr Benito Raul Losada, president of the Central Bank of Venezuela, said. "We have never had as many incentives as we have now."

The incentives consist primarily of loans at preferential rates and lengthening periods of repayment, and of tax relief. Corporate taxes are low, and are often further diminished by the breaking up of earnings into profit centres.

An idea of the country's tax structure is given by the personal income tax rate of 9.5 per cent to which a person earning £5,000 is liable, and of 12.5 per cent of an income of £20,000, giving plenty of scope to the entrepreneur.

The tax laws are not rigidly enforced, but even the mild programme of tax reforms at present before the National Congress has provoked vehement opposition from the private sector.

Its public spokesman, the Venezuelan Federation of Chambers of Commerce (Fedecamaras), believes that the country's oil and iron ore resources should be in the hands of the Government, both because of the size of investment and their strategic importance, but that manufacturing can be better handled by the private sector.

"We do not believe that the state is a good administrator", Dr Castro Hernández, Fedecamaras chief economist, said. The organization points out that, despite the financial disparity between public and private enterprise, just over three-quarters of the working population are employed in the private sector.

It recently criticized the Government for inefficiency in the prompt distribution of bank loans for capital projects, complaining that about 200 development projects in Venezuela had come to a standstill despite the funds ostensibly available. (Loans and long-term investments by commercial banks and public institutions totalled Bs95.043m in 1976, the last published figure available.)

It has praise, however, for government-sponsored agencies such as Corpoindustria which provides favourable loans for the development of medium and small companies, defined as those with assets of less than Bs1m and Bs2m respectively.

Most private sector investment is in the hands of a few powerful and diverse groups, which have conglomerate character, in family ownership.

One of the foremost, the Mendoza group, which has assets of more than Bs1,500m, began as a small building materials firm in which Señor Eugenio Mendoza became a partner more than 50 years ago.

It widened its interests rapidly, and now has 70 per cent of its investment in industry, including also controlling interest in cement production, and large stakes in the paper, animal feed, chemical and cement market.

Many of its investments are made in partnership with other companies, a growing feature of the private sector—so that, for instance, Mendoza has an 80 per cent share in Banco la Guaira International, with the remaining portion owned by Lloyds Bank.

Señor Mendoza, now aged 71, is still president of the company, but active administration is vested in a committee which includes his nephew, Dr Manuel Antonio Mendoza.

"The Government has put a brake on the private industrial sector", Dr Mendoza said, "by failing to relate its policy of price control to manufacturing costs."

The Mendoza group makes a healthy profit, although Venezuela's large private conglomerates are almost uniformly dumb on the publication of specific figures, meaning that the diversity of their interests makes it difficult to calculate.

The Mendoza family owns only 30 per cent of the group although it retains its control, what paternalistic close ties and has increased its emphasis on sponsorship of philanthropic activities.

Dr Mendoza sees the chemicals and financial services as areas of immediate expansion, but reiterates reservations on the manufacturing side: "The price machinery affects costs more than sales—profits have increased the way they should."

Car salesman built an empire

Almost equally influential is the organization founded by Señor Di Ego Cisneros, a Cuban immigrant in the 1930s. Starting as a car salesman, he has built up an empire which includes Venezuela's largest supermarket chain (previously owned by Rockefeller interests), successful television stations and manufacture of Coca-Cola, which substantially sells Coca-Cola in Venezuela to the surprise of many Americans. His strength has been dynamic management strategy and administration.

Señor José Antonio Revenga, vice-president of the organization, believes that the Venezuelan private sector has the entrepreneurial vision and management skills which the Government lacks, although it suffers from the shortage of trained manpower common to all Venezuelan enterprise.

"Our biggest drawback is finding staff at all levels", he said. The Cisneros group does not see any early benefit to the country being a member of the Andean Pact but envisages expansion of the export market in the Caribbean. good development potential domestically in agriculture and low-cost housing.

But Señor Revenga is pessimistic about the short-term levels of production in Venezuela. "The outlook is dismal, with an increasing shortfall in basic foodstuffs for which there is a growing and serious demand. It is left to the private sector to remedy."

According to most recently published figures, Venezuela manufactures only 30 per cent of its requirements of machinery and equipment. Housing increased by 100,000 units a year between 1971 and 1976, of which the private sector built 40 per cent; more are urgently needed.

The country recorded a 20 per cent rise in imports last year, and still relies on overseas suppliers for more than 20 per cent of its needs. Venezuela's private sector, traditionally dominated by household names such as the Mendoza, Cisneros, Zuloaga and Salvat families, has proved that it is flexible and adaptable enough to meet Venezuela's changing domestic needs.

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Extent of political freedom is unusual in region



Señor Luis Piñerúa Ordaz, successor to President Pérez, campaigning in Caracas.

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...rnment of Presi... ...Andrés Pérez, ...the continent, ...nsitive to criti... ...responded heavy... ...rebuffs in the ...weekly magazine ...its editor was ...for seven weeks ...civil charge.

...ezuela there is ...political claus... ...much character... ...Latin American ...President Pérez ...of saying, per... ...justifiable pride, ...lan democracy ...ned and must ...y defended.

Pérez himself was instrumental in the introduction of democracy, having served as personal secretary to Señor Rómulo Betancourt, founder of the Democratic Action Party, and spent long periods in exile during the dictatorship of General Marcos Pérez Jiménez, who was overthrown in 1958, leaving the way clear for Señor Betancourt to return to Venezuela and become President.

Under Venezuelan constitutional law, the presidency operates in conjunction with a two-chamber National Congress, at present comprising a Senate of 49 members and lower-house Chamber of Deputies in which 200 representatives sit. All seats will be contested at the forthcoming election.

The law also dictates that President Pérez will not be able to renew his term of office or stand for reelection during the next 10 years. His successor as a candidate, Señor Luis Pinerua Ordaz, has a contrasting political style or, some more disparaging observers maintain, lack of style.

Short in stature, and lacking the extroversion which has led Venezuela to look outwards and take a stand in international and particularly Third World matters in recent years, Señor Pinerua is a product of the AD party machinery and can claim much of the credit for its present efficiency.

He pulled the organization of the AD Party together after the split which led to its losing the general election of 1968 to Copei, largely through a thorough administrative exercise which became known as Operation Mosca. Although he may lack personal magnetism, Señor Piñerúa has proved administrative ability and an under-estimated political roughness. He was secretary of the party until last summer, when he emerged victorious from a party primary election against the leader of Congress, Señor Jaime Lusinchi, President Pérez's choice of AD candidate.

Señor Piñerúa, who owed his nomination to the party founder and elder statesman, Señor Romulo Betancourt, has only recently begun appearing on the same platform as Señor Lusinchi, and there are thought to be a number of residual political differences between Señor Betancourt and Señor Pérez over AD policy, but the party hierarchy has evidently resolved to bury them, remembering its painful electoral lesson in 1968.

Many observers will be watching after the election to see whether President Pérez attempts to assume the mantle of ideological head of the party, at present vested in Señor Betancourt.

AD has more than one million registered members, twice as many as Copei, its principal rival, and a recent opinion poll favoured it by 14 per cent over the Social Christians. Señor Piñerúa however, was 3 per cent behind Señor Luis Herrera Campins, the Copei candidate, in terms of personal popularity.

Although both big parties are of the centre, Copei has traditionally had a stronger affiliation with private enterprise, while AD prides itself on its links with the world's big social democratic parties, including the British Labour Party. Paradoxically, Señor Herrera Campins is regarded as leader of the progressive wing of Copei, favouring popular participation in government, increased investment in education, and the rationalization of public spending.

Copei badly needs to win the election to prevent the possibility of going into decline, although Señor Rafael Caldera, its only former president (from 1968 to 1973) is thought likely to be the Copei contender in five years' time.

Despite the two main parties' political ascendancy—they commanded 85 per cent of the total vote in 1973—the growth of the electorate over the past five years will add a strong element of unpredictability to the polling in December. Approximately a quarter of Venezuela's electorate of six million people—anyone over the age of 18 is required by law to cast a vote—will be voting for the first time, a statistic from which the parties of the left will be hoping to profit.

Attempts were made early this year to present a united front among the four main left-wing parties, and a single candidate, but were resisted by the movement for socialism (MAS), the largest, which polled 5.3 per cent of the vote in 1973, making it Venezuela's third largest party only two years after its formation. Its candidate now as then is Señor José Vincente Rangel, a left-wing lawyer. MAS recently sustained losses in trade union elections and some members are questioning the wisdom of rejecting a left-wing alliance.

The Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), formerly involved in guerrilla activities and now committed to parliamentarianism, has made some progress through its energetic candidate, Señor Americo Martins. The party's slogan is "clean hands". Also running for the presidency is the People's Electoral Movement (MEP), the splinter group which parted company with AD in 1968 through its leader, Señor Luis Beltran Prieto Figueroa, who is standing again this time. Señor Hector Mujica, a journalist, is the candidate of the Communist Party.

There are also two extreme right-wing parties represented, one of which still uses pictures of the discredited military dictator, Señor Pérez Jimenez, on its campaign literature. A possible independent candidate is Señor Renny Ottolina, one of Venezuela's leading television personalities, who is perhaps better known for promoting dog food than democratic processes, but who is dererminedly collecting signatures for his candidacy.

Señor Ottolina was recently taken off the air temporarily, accused by the Government of using his programme to put over his own political views.

The AD and Copei candidates have already begun exhaustive tours of the interior of Venezuela, and both have also been conspicuously campaigning for votes in the poorer areas of Caracas. Copei does not argue with such cornerstones of the Pérez Government's policy as nationalization of the oil and iron industries, but Señor Herrera Campins seriously questions AD's success in fulfilling its much-publicized objective of the redistribution of wealth.

"The AD Party is entering the presidential contest with the same promises it made in 1973", he said recently. Inefficiency and corruption in the Government's public administration is another recurring theme of Señor Herrera's rather aggressive campaign.

Señor Piñerúa is also guardedly critical of the present Government's lack of tight control over public spending or inflation, and presents the impression that an administration under him would be characterized by strict financial discipline and a greater measure of incorruptibility, what he terms "administrative morality".

Despite an inordinate amount of sparring over the possibility of television debates and the alleged shortcoming of the other candidates, AD and Copei have yet to formulate a stance on most specific issues. One is led to conclude that perhaps it will be personalities more than politics which change when Venezuela forms its next government.

P.G.

Democracy learns its bitter lessons

by Andrew Hale

From its independence in the early nineteenth century until 1935, Venezuela was nearly always under the rule of dictatorships, the worst being the last, that of Juan Vicente Gómez who ran the country as if it was his own personal property. It was in the years of the partial restoration of political rights under the military presidencies of López and Medina that followed Gómez between 1935 and 1945, that Romulo Betancourt founded Acción Democrática (AD) and organized support for it among the peasants and workers in the recently established oil industry.

Realizing that the self-perpetuating rule of the generals would not allow them into power, Betancourt and AD joined with discontented junior officers in a coup in 1945 which overthrew President Medina. From 1945 to 1948 Betancourt headed a provisional government which, besides initiating various social and economic reforms, drew up a democratic constitution. In 1948 a presidential election was held and the AD candidate, the novelist Romulo Gallegos, won 70 per cent of the votes.

The first AD regime was inexperienced and unappreciative of political realities and soon ran into trouble with vested interests. It spurned the approaches of other parties, such as the Christian Democrat Copei, under its leader Rafael Caldera, threatened landowners with reform measures and the Roman Catholic church with the secularization of education and sought to make the army a passive instrument of party policy. Towards the end of 1948, the Gallegos regime was overthrown by the military, inspired by Marcos Pérez Jiménez.

Ten years of increasingly tyrannical rule followed with Pérez Jiménez emerging as a dictator in the Gómez mould, who devoted the resources of the state to prestige projects in Caracas, the capital, which were devised to widen the opportunities for graft rather than to bring about genuine development. The dictator eventually lost support in the Armed Forces and was ousted in a coup in January 1958. A provisional government was set up which called back Betancourt and other political leaders from exile and organized free elections.

At first it was hoped to run a single constitutional candidate, but no agreement could be reached between the political parties and each decided to run its own campaign, while pledging itself to accept the electorate's verdict. Betancourt won 49 per cent of the vote and emerged as President for a five year term. This second period of AD government was very different from that of 1945-48.

The apparent vigour of contemporary Venezuelan democracy may make us forget how fragile a thing it once seemed: only a decade ago the prospects for democratic survival seemed weak and tenuous at best. Even during the 1973 election campaign the AD candidate, Carlos Andrés Pérez, was widely quoted to the effect that the next few years would be the last chance for democracy in the country.

But in the period since Betancourt took over in 1958 democratic institutions have survived and prospered, overcoming economic problems and defeating both a succession of military coups and an extended attempt at guerrilla war by the left. Venezuelan democracy in fact survived after 1958 because survival was the primary, immediate goal of Venezuela's leadership. For a start, Betancourt and AD learnt the bitter lessons from the period 1945-48, known as the *trienio*.

Steps were taken to ensure that the army was not antagonized and to encourage it to remain outside the political arena. Rather than press at once for radical reforms in business, agriculture, social welfare and education, the political leaders devoted great effort to conciliating old enemies, building coalitions in government, Congress and private organizations and establishing the legitimacy of the new political system. Underlying this strategy was the belief that social and economic reform could have lasting impact only if put into effect by solid and durable institutions.

Betancourt's main difficulties came, not from other parties, but from young dissidents in his own party, who wanted a much more radical left-wing policy, and considered that the leader was betraying his own original ideals. Eventually the extremists split off and formed the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) which soon became indistinguishable from the Venezuelan Communist Party.

The other main party of the left, the Movimiento al Socialismo (MAS) grew out of the expulsion from the Communist Party of many members who protested against the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. On leaving the Communist Party, these leaders founded MAS as the party to elaborate a fresh, nationalist and independent socialist alternative for Venezuela.

They reject both the reformism of AD and Copei and the rigid Stalinist positions which previously characterized Venezuelan communism. In addition to its ideological significance, which gives it a "Eurocommunist" hue, the MAS is also noteworthy in that its very formation reflects the abandonment of guerrilla war and insurrectionary strategies as unsuitable for Venezuelan society. Instead emphasis is placed on mass organization essentially within the bounds of the present political system.

The 1963 elections took place against the background of a threat that the guerrillas would shoot anyone who tried to vote. Romulo Betancourt's successor, Raul Leoni, also came from the ranks of AD and governed with the aid of a party coalition, carrying on most of Betancourt's policies. As the end of his term approached a split developed in the AD ranks taking the form of a contest over the selection of a candidate for the presidential election of 1968 between the leadership's choice, Gonzalo Barrios, and Luis B. Prieto who wanted to lead the party towards a more radical stance.

Prieto was defeated in the primary elections and went on to contest the election with a new party, taking with him a number of AD followers. This split of the traditional AD vote between Barrios and Prieto let the Copei candidate, Rafael Caldera, squeeze into the presidency on less than 30 per cent of the votes and with only minority support in the legislature.

The fact that Caldera took office peacefully marked another stage in the development of democracy in Venezuela, with the peaceful transfer of power from one party to another. Of course it was not only the compromise policies of both AD, with its social democratic leanings, and Copei, with its Christian Democratic orientation, that helped to consolidate democracy. It has always been much easier to rule and reform when there is a large national cake to divide and Venezuela's massive income from the oil industry helped considerably in the early years.

Although it would be rash to suggest that a two-party system of broad political agreement on basic constitutional principles is firmly established, the success of the past 20 years suggests that not only has legitimacy been achieved but that with 85 per cent of the votes between them, AD and Copei have won massive popular recognition.

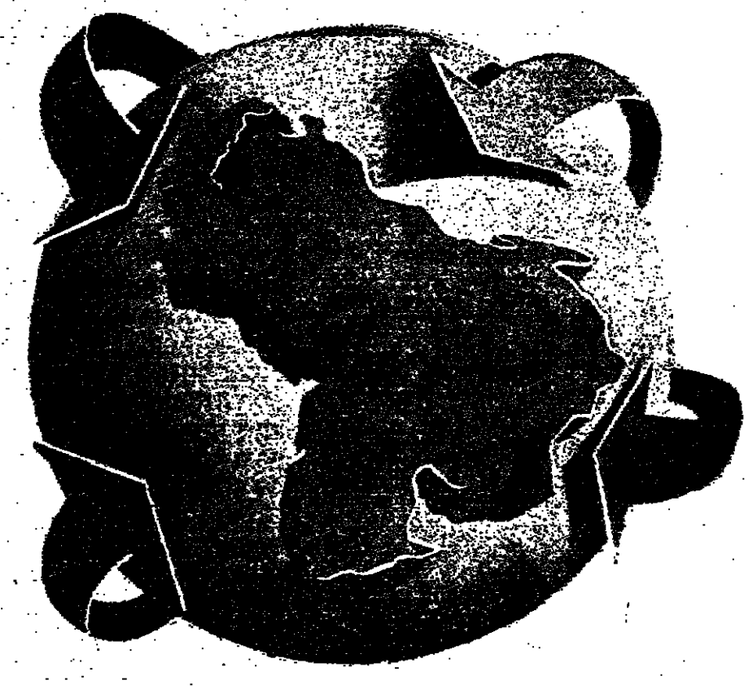
In the 1973 elections power was won again by AD, whose candidate, Carlos Andrés Pérez, took about half the votes. The Copei candidate polled more than one third of the votes and all the other parties, including the official Communists and various other left-wing socialist groups, were soundly rejected by the voters. A lot of money was spent by both the main candidates in this election and will be in the presidential elections in December. In 1973 the success of Carlos Andrés Pérez's campaign was achieved to a large extent by the man of the world image projected by Diego Arria, who is at present the Minister of Information.

The present campaign, which has already begun, promises to be a less exciting affair, and has been called a contest of personalities without any personalities. The two principal contenders are Luis Piñerúa Ordaz of AD and Luis Herrera Campins of Copei. Both are middle of the road pragmatists with very little to choose between them in ideological terms.

Piñerúa, who was previously party secretary of AD and defeated congressional leader Jaime Lusinchi in the primary election, is a careful incorruptible figure without the popular appeal of Carlos Andrés Pérez. He has the backing of Señor Betancourt, the former President, and on present form may be able to beat the Copei candidate.

Nevertheless, since 1958 Copei has consistently expanded its national support, moving from about 15 per cent of the popular vote in 1958 to well over a third in 1973.

The author is on the staff of Latin American Newsletter.



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IN VENEZUELA YOU KNOW WHERE YOU STAND

Ambitious development programme continues apace

by Peter Godfrey

Early this year some disconcerting signs began to appear in the buoyant Venezuelan economy. The Government, whose programme of national development has, until now, been characterized by massive investment and economic confidence, began to show a new-found thrift and awareness that the country's wealth, founded on petroleum, was not unending.

Average daily production of crude oil by the state-owned Petroleos de Venezuela was 1,700,000 barrels up to mid-February, significantly below the Government's professed aim of striking a daily average of 2,200,000 in 1978.

Although production rose subsequently by 100,000 barrels a day, the Government of President Carlos Andres Pérez acknowledged its concern by introducing an unprecedented series of spending cuts. Vacant Government posts are to remain vacant, state expenditure on property, furnishings and official business is to be rationalized, the outlay on some development projects which do not have a high priority will be reduced and their completion staggered over a longer period.

Although the Government was characteristically coy about producing figures, it is thought that the economy measures could amount to a cut of about 7 per cent (about $500m) in Venezuela's public spending budget for 1978.

Since it is a presidential election year, the economic spasm puts President Pérez in some difficulty. Many experts, among them the president of the Central Bank of Venezuela, think that the country may well fall short of its target this year of producing 2,200,000 barrels of oil a day. With domestic consumption at a level of 264,000 barrels daily, and increasing at an annual rate of 10 per cent, it appears unlikely, despite full storage tanks, that Venezuela will achieve its aim of exporting more than 1,900,000 barrels of oil a day, so that its income from foreign oil sales could be substantially reduced.

It is unlikely that President Pérez will risk imposing a rise in the price of petrol at home, as effective a vote-loser as could be devised. Venezuelans buy petrol at the subsidized knock-down price of Bs0.35 (about 4p) a litre, enabling a taxi-driver to keep his outsize Chevrolet on the congested streets of Caracas for very little outlay.

It is in Caracas, a phenomenon among Latin American cities (and, some would say, more American than Latin), that many of the contrasts in Venezuela's economy are to be seen. Office blocks, lavish precincts and residential buildings are being put up with noticeable speed, while makeshift shanty towns stretch towards the cloud-topped hills which form their backcloth. The only way left to build now in Caracas is upward.

The bustling boom city of nouveaux riches, where people earn a lot and spend a lot, coexists with a degree of urban squalor, a strain on educational, health and social resources, and a dearth of cultural activity.

Despite recent economic apprehensions, the ambitious development programme initiated by President Pérez's Democratic Action (AD) regime continues apace. Its backbone is the fifth national plan, a blueprint for the country's development from 1976 to 1980.

The momentum of the plan at this stage is so great that it will almost certainly continue with only minor modifications after the general election in December, whether the next government is formed by AD or by the principal opposition party, the Christian Democrats (Copei).

The plan provides for a fixed investment of Bs223,673m (at present prices) in the Venezuelan economy over the five-year period, 53 per cent of it provided by the public sector. A measure of the plan's ambitiousness is that the total financial input is more than three times as great as that of the previous five-year plan. The main areas earmarked for public sector investment are, in order of the size of financial outlay: the oil industry (Bs23,250m), electricity supply (Bs17,677m), transport and communications (Bs16,881m), steelmaking (Bs15,370m) and agriculture (Bs8,205m).

The most notable individual large-scale project, and one of the most successful, is the development of the inland region of Guayana, centred on the Orinoco river. Under the auspices of the Venezuelan Development Corporation (CVG), set up as a semi-autonomous body in 1960, a big industrial complex has been developed and is being expanded.

The Guri hydroelectric power station has a capacity of 1,650MW and produced 9,916,000 megawatt-hours of electricity in 1976. The height of the dam is to be raised, giving it a capacity of more than nine million kilowatts within the next 10 years and making it one of the world's largest.

Work is on schedule with the expansion of aluminium production, for which public investment in Guayana under the development plan totals Bs5,560m. The CVG, together with foreign partners, is building two aluminium and one alumina plant, with a total production capacity of 400,000 tonnes annually. Expansion of the steel-making plant near Ciudad Guayana is under way, with the aim of quadrupling its capacity of 1,200,000 tonnes. High-grade iron ore for the plant is obtained from deposits nearby.

Venezuela is anxious to become self-sufficient in steel, having found that, despite large iron ore deposits, it earns less from its exports of iron than it pays for the import of finished steel products. It aims to achieve that objective, and become an exporter of steel, by the end of the development plan period.

It is perhaps worth noting that between 4 and 5 per cent of Venezuelan imports are British. British exports, primarily machinery, drink (Venezuela claims the largest per capita consumption of scorch in the world) and manufactured goods, totalled £175.2m worth in 1977, out of £964.6m worth to the whole of Latin America.

Britain still lags behind competitors such as Germany, Japan, Canada and Italy, and representatives in Caracas feel that there is room for expansion, perhaps to a share of 8 per cent of the country's imports.

Questioned recently about the progress of the national development plan, Dr Lorenzo Azpurua Marturet, Venezuela's minister of planning, pinpointed some of the difficulties being faced in trying to create a broader-based economy than that traditionally oriented to oil wealth.

"We have a shortage of human resources at technical, administrative and managerial levels, because we are expanding too fast to have time to prepare people", he said. "We have to slow down."

Dr Marturet said that at the same time there was an urgent need to generate jobs under the plan for a population three-quarters of which was under 25. The plan aims to create 167,000 jobs a year until 1980. Several thousand young Venezuelans are studying abroad under Government scholarship programmes.

There are doubts, however, whether the national plan, despite large investments in education and welfare, can keep pace with an annual increase of nearly 4 per cent in the population of 12,500,000.

"We have started special birth control programmes, but they are at the social research stage", Dr Marturet said. "We do not have an established programme yet."

While Dr Marturet was satisfied with the general progress of the plan, to the point of having to put a brake on it, especially in the private sector whose contribution, he said, had been 70 per cent higher than expected, he admitted some weak spots in transportation, such as the need to increase the capacity of the country's ports.

He also picked out petrochemicals as an industry where expansion had been retarded, and indicated that the problem of urban slums had yet to be fully tackled.

"We cannot develop everything at the same time. The solution for that is to build satellite cities around Caracas, but we have to produce stable jobs for people living in them."

Much of the public financing of the plan is being provided by oil revenues, which still provide more than 70 per cent of Venezuela's wealth, and directly from the Government's spending budget, so that the effect of recent economic trends is likely to make itself felt on specific projects.

The thrust of the plan is based on an aggressive deployment of funds, which are almost fully stretched. Government spending totalled $12,400m in 1977, against an income of $12,100m. The country's balance of payments surplus fell from $4,169m in 1974 to $42m in 1976 as it entered its most heavy period of capital expenditure, and the Caracas Chamber of Commerce has suggested, perhaps a shade too gloomily, that Venezuela could record a deficit of up to $1,000m for 1977.

The country's public debt increased by 55 per cent last year, and its external debt has more than trebled over the past five years to stand at $4,700m at the end of 1977. It has already been augmented by a $1,300m loan early this year.

Dr Benito Raul Losada, the president of the Central Bank of Venezuela, points to the country's large international reserves as a cushion against economic setbacks.

In a recent interview with The Times in Caracas, Dr Losada predicted a rate of growth for the country this year of between 8 and 9 per cent, similar to last year's figure. "That is a good rate. I would not like to see it any faster because we do not have the resources to cope with it", he said. "Faster than that means inflation."

The Central Bank president expected Venezuela's inflation rate this year to be slightly higher than last year's figure of 8.1 per cent, "But in any case below 10 per cent".

He regarded the Government's new economic cuts as a case of prevention being better than cure, and saw no immediate cause for alarm in the possibility that daily oil production might fall short of the 2,200,000 barrels mark. "We have the storage tanks very full."

Dr Losada admitted, however, that there were some potentially ominous signs in Venezuela's recent economic performance, notably a 30 per cent increase in imports during 1977.

Although much of this was capital goods for the development plan, it included a sizable proportion of consumer and luxury goods. He also welcomed the Government's move to try to eliminate unnecessary expenditure. "All the time everybody is asking for more money. This is a good way of putting a stop to it."

Financial wastefulness and a loose rein on public spending have been constant themes of critics of the Pérez Government. Despite the strain which is at present being put on its economy, Venezuela has the financial resources to withstand and surmount porrents of crisis. Besides being supported by the Government's domestic and international reserves, the fifth national plan can draw specifically on the Venezuelan Investment Fund (FIV), established by the Government to hold superfluous oil revenue, with assets standing at Bs28,000m last July.

It remains to be seen, however, whether President Pérez's Government, highly conscious of electoral considerations, will attempt more fundamental and perhaps unpopular changes in public spending policy than slowing down marginally the frenetic pace of national development and papering over the economic cracks which have appeared.

Rising national debt is no cause for alarm

by Nigel Bance

The Venezuela Government will have difficulty in repeating the terms and conditions of the 1,200m Eurocredit borrowed on the international capital market last January.

The Euromarket is now flooded with Venezuelan paper and the belief among the Eurobankers is that Venezuela will be unable to repeat the ¾ per cent margin above the London Interbank offered rate for Eurodollars (LIBOR). The underwriters were not successful in selling this loan. For further loans this year Venezuela might have to accept a margin of ⅞ per cent instead.

Venezuela first made its entry into the medium-term Eurocredit market in 1974 when it borrowed $67.5m. The following year it borrowed $200m. The first of Venezuela's jumbo-sized loans came in 1976 when it borrowed $1,000m. For the year as a whole it borrowed $1,035.5m. The Republic of Venezuela's $1,000m loan in 1976 was at a margin of 1¼ per cent above LIBOR with a maturity of seven years. In 1977, Venezuela increased its borrowing by $1,739m which included another big loan of $1,200m with a lower margin of 1 per cent and over seven years. The recent $1,200m was over 10 years.

There is no cause for alarm at the rising amount of Venezuelan debt. Venezuela is still regarded as underborrowed. Official reserves topped $9,000m for the first time, although partly as a result of foreign borrowing, which is equivalent to 16 months of imports. The Fondo de Inversione de Venezuela holds assets of $6,900m. Venezuela is able to command the best terms of any developing country that borrows in the Euromarket.

The foreign loans are being spent on building up the communications, services and industry, so lessening the country's dependence on oil. In only a brief period foundations have been laid to turn Venezuela into a modern industrialized society. The fifth national plan, if successful, will turn Venezuela into the most modern economy in South America.

The plan covers the period 1976 to 1980 and expenditure is twice the fourth national plan of 1970 to 1974. The target is to achieve growth in real gdp of 8.2 per cent a year. Growth was nearly on target in 1977 with an estimated rate of 8 per cent but in 1976 growth was only 7.6 per cent.

The total public debt of the Venezuela Government is forecast to reach $10,200m (Bs 44,000m) by the end of 1978 according to the Finance Minister, Señor Luis Luonga. He has said that $250m of foreign credits in 1978 would contribute towards refinancing existing debt. At the end of 1977 some 50 per cent of the Government's public debt was external. Both directly and indirectly the amount was $3,800m (Bs16,200m). From 1973 to 1977 external debt has risen 13 times.

What is giving cause for concern is the sharp fall in oil revenue. It has been Government policy to hold down production to save the oil reserves and rely on increased oil prices to make up the difference. The Government has successfully scaled down production levels from a peak of 3,366 million barrels a day in 1973 and has lengthened the life of proved reserves from 11.3 years to 21.8 years.

Success in the Eurocredit market has led Venezuela to turn to the Eurobond market. In 1977 Venezuela offered three bond issues totalling $350m in New York and in London. The Government has also sold 20,000m yen Republic of Venezuela bonds on the Tokyo market. However, Venezuela has not been as successful on the Eurobond market with several issues falling below par.

Moving into debt has not distracted Venezuela from its substantial aid programme.

There is no doubt that Venezuela has expanded too fast too quickly and is suffering the consequences. Imports, which were at record levels of $8,400m in 1977, have risen fourfold since 1973 and were mainly responsible for the balancing of payments deficit of $100m in 1977. It was the first deficit since 1967. Inflation is rising fast. Although official figures put the inflation rate at 8.1 per cent the rate is probably twice as high, according to the Wormley Bank. Money supply has also doubled in two years.

The Government has realized that it is over-spending and has recently trimmed 5 per cent off the 1978 budget. Unfortunately only 5 per cent of the budget is current expenditure and the rest fuels inflation.

The Eurobankers are not too concerned about Venezuela's indebtedness in the short term and still rate Venezuela as one of the best credit risks on the international markets.

The author is on the staff of Euromoney.

BORROWINGS IN THE EUROCREDIT MARKET

Borrower	Amount $m	Margin above LIBOR %	Maturity years
1976			
Venezolana de Ferroleaciones Bozel CA	13.0	1.500	5.0
CA Venezolana de Desarrollo	10.0	1.750	6.0
The Republic of Venezuela	1000.0	1.125	7.0
Arrendadora Industrial Venezolana CA	6.0	2.250	3.0
Aluminio Del Caroni SA (ALUCASA) In conjunction with Fondo de Inversiones de Venezuela	45.0	n/a	n/a
1977			
Cerveceria Polar CA and Cerveceria Polar del Centro CA	20.0	1.250	2.0
		1.500	5.8
Inversionista del Transporte CA	15.2	1.250	5.0
The Republic of Venezuela With Banco Central de Venezuela as fiscal agent for the Republic	1200.0	1.000	7.0
CA Venezolana de Desarrollo	12.0	1.750	6.0
Inversiones y Promociones Turisticas SA	40.0	1.500	5.0
Arrendadora Industrial Venezolana CA	5.0	1.500	5.0
The Republic of Venezuela Banco Central de Venezuela as fiscal agent for the Republic	350.0	.875	7.0
Corporacion Andina de Fomento-CAF	50.0	1.250	7.0
Comdima	7.9	.750	2.0
1978			
Republic of Venezuela	1200.0	.750	10.0

Source: Euromoney Syndication Service

PUBLIC DEBT (Bs million)

	External		Internal		Total		Gra
	Direct (a)	Indirect (b)	Direct (a)	Indirect (b)	Direct (a)	Indirect (b)	
1973	1,126	2,787	1,423	1,800	2,549	4,587	7,1
1974	879	2,414	3,647	1,711	4,526	4,125	8,6
1975	831	2,394	3,755	2,821	4,586	5,215	9,8
1976	9,118*	2,170	4,108	3,952	13,226	6,122	19,3
1977**	14,450	1,838	6,032	6,586	20,482	8,424	28,9

(a) Debt directly incurred by the republic; (b) Debt guaranteed by the republic and incurred or guaranteed by decentralized state institutions. *Includes issue of bonds in respect of nationalization of the oil industry. **Provisional estimates.

Source: Grindlays Bank

Venezuela opens its doors to tourism investment

The Venezuela National Government has created special incentives for investment in tourism development. The investor in Venezuela can carry out all the plans he has in mind. Venezuela is a country with a consolidated democratic system.

The doorway to Latin America, Venezuela is a tourist country par excellence, with thousands of visitors every year, stable currency, a thriving economy, and a young, hospitable, hard-working population which assures the success of any investment in the tourist field.

For Venezuela, investment in tourism is exempt from Decision 24 of the Andean Sub-Regional Pact which regulates foreign investment.

Profits made on investments in tourism development and services are also exempt from income tax. Private banks in Venezuela are authorized to finance tourism projects and a preferential system of interests established and financed by the Corporación de Turismo through Venezuelan banking institutions has been created.

In Venezuela there are organizations for co-financing of tourism, developments like the Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo Urbano, through long term, low interest credits, as well as other mechanisms for credit from State organizations.

Far from being a gamble, tourism investment in Venezuela is a growing and productive activity. With the support of the State through guarantees, credits and other forms of direct or indirect financing, private investment in Venezuela tourism becomes more important every day.

This private investment in hotels, tourism complexes, air, sea and land transportation is supported and strengthened by the participation of the State with its construction of the tourism and service infrastructure as a further contribution to its success.

All administration processes related to investments in tourism are are speedily completed, and the investors receive the required information without delay.

Our democratic type of government guarantees local and foreign investors a dependable and secure base for the recuperation of the capital invested and the export of profits produced.

For more information, contact Corporación de Turismo de Venezuela, Apartado 50200, Caracas.







Venezuela

MINISTERIO DE INFORMACION Y TURISMO

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Cheverton Workboats
6m - 23m
Cowes, Isle of Wight. Tel: Cowes 5631. Telex: 86498.

oney supply owth slows but ll likely to ceed ceiling

Whitmore
Correspondent

...e of growth in the ...pply returned to more ...vels last month after ...ptional 2.3 per cent ...ecorded in January.

...four weeks to Febru... ...erling M3, the broad... ...inition of money sup... ...by 1.1 per cent, or by ...asonally adjusted) to

...ugh the latest figures ...confirm that the mid... ...pulge in monetary ... now over, the Gov... still seems likely to ...e present monetary ...money supply expan... ...r higher than the in... ...per cent ceiling.

...e first 10 months of ...erling M3 has already ... 12.1 per cent, or ...7 per cent on an an... ...asis.

...rn to a more accept... ...of growth in February ...gely put down to the ...ublic sector contribu... ...the money supply. ...sales of gilt-edged ...ng the month were ...an modest, the public ...oyed a very substan... ...of funds from tax ...particularly corpor... ...yments.

...ast, there were signs ...ed bank lending to ...sector. Although the ...ure—£371m season... ...ed—was little more ...verage monthly in... ...e recent months, it ...ntially higher than ...rious two months.

...more, given the slow... ...he rate of price in... ...also suggests that ...ng in real terms may ... expand rather more

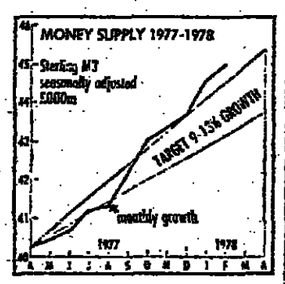
...s the case, it is a de... ...the Chancellor will ...e considerable uncer... ...n searching for the ... balance between ...monetary policy in ...

...on to the expansion ...ading to the private ...re was also a sharp ...reding lending over-

...ng a table for and ...tability, p29

seas last month. Here the upturn was £296m by far the largest monthly increase for some time.

In part this reflected the recent changes in the financing of lending for exports, but there was also an increase in the total volume of demand for export finance.



For the first time for some months growth in sterling M3 and DCE (domestic credit expansion) were broadly similar. The external and foreign currency item was very much smaller than in January at £138m, while growth in non-deposit liabilities returned to a more normal pattern after the distortions caused in earlier months by the "lost" public sector deposits.

The reaction of the gilt market to the February figures was that they were very much in line with expectation. The market is now far more relaxed about the monetary outlook, particularly since the authorities have been able to sell moderate quantities of gilts over the past few days.

In addition, the recent figures for the central government borrowing requirement in February have added further weight to the belief that the public sector borrowing requirement for the full financial year is likely to emerge at comfortably under £6,000m.

Table, page 28
Financial Editor, page 29

Inquiry says travel group board acted largely as a rubber stamp

Court Line management was 'inadequate'

By Nicholas Hirst

Four directors of Court Line, the travel and shipping group which collapsed in 1974 leaving 40,000 holiday-makers stranded, are accused of "a serious dereliction of duties" by Department of Trade inspectors in a final report on the affair, published yesterday.

The four are: managing director Mr John Young, the late Sir John Briggs, Mr Jim Venus and Mr J. W. Chapman, who are all accused of having made profits out of a private company called Marine Leasings which they ought to have disclosed to Court Line and which, in the opinion of the inspectors, they ought to have paid to Court Line.

"We believe the reason for setting up Marine Leasing for those concerned was to make a personal profit which they were hopeful of doing without anybody knowing", the inspectors say.

All the directors share some of the blame for the group's collapse according to the report prepared under the Companies Act by Mr James Comyn, QC, accountant Mr Douglas Morpeth, and Mr John Hamilton, a barrister.

"The informal manner in which decisions were taken together with the absence of proper management reporting systems, undoubtedly contributed to the collapse of Court Line", the inspectors say.

"In our view none of the directors can be absolved for allowing the continuation of a position where the board of Court Line acted largely as a rubber stamp."

But despite the collapse the report has praise for the management for its development of the first covered-in shipyard at Appledore and it confirms their interim comments in July, 1975, that there was no fraudulent trading, and that, despite the hardship to holiday-makers, the group ceased to trade at the correct time under the law.

However, the inspectors conclude that the last set of published accounts produced by the group before its collapse for the year to September 30, 1973, did not on balance give a "true and fair view" of the state of the company at that time.

With a minor exception the auditors, Robson Rhodes, gave an unqualified opinion of the accounts.

The inspectors put the blame on the directors who, they say, had an optimistic view of events. "It appears to us that whenever there was a doubt about the possible methods of application of accounting practices, Court Line chose the method which reacted most favourably on the profit for the year." The report continues: "We do not believe this happened by accident."

The merits of Robson Rhodes who in a statement yesterday adhered to their audit opinion of 1974 on the information then available to them, are recognized by the inspectors, although they say they do not always agree with them.

Both Robson Rhodes and Peat Marwick Mitchell are criticized, however, for failing to qualify the accounts of Clarksons Holidays, which Court Line acquired in 1973.

The story of Court Line, according to the report, "is one of humble beginnings, rapid diversification over a wide field, very heavy borrowings, an extensive and distastrous incursion into the Caribbean, inadequate overall management and a share of ill-luck. It is also the story of one leading personality—the managing director, Mr John Young".

The reasons for its collapse were that it was unable to weather the serious setback created by the oil crisis of 1973. It was the cumulative effect of this crisis on the shipping, aviation and leisure divisions, when the cash that might otherwise have been available had been pushed into Caribbean ventures, that brought the company down.

On the way to collapse, however, there were serious management deficiencies and the inspectors find much to criticize. Mr Young was undoubtedly the dominant figure within the group. He had a remarkably optimistic view of business to an extent that he may have clouded the judgment of his fellow directors on matters which required a more cautious approach.

Apart from the Marine Leasings' criticism, the inspectors give a detailed account of a complicated agreement with Bankers Trust International involving the taking over of Doxford and Sunderland shipbuilders.

The inspectors question whether the arrangements entered into were in breach of section 54 of the Companies Act 1948 which prohibits a company from buying its own shares or lending money to buy its own shares.

Court Line ended up paying nearly £1m as an indemnity to BTI in March, 1974, against the price of its own shares, but no indication of any latent indemnity was given in the 1973 accounts. The group is strongly criticized for not having taken legal advice on entering the agreement and for disregarding advice when it was given.

Even stronger criticism is meted out over a loan given to Mr Donald MacQueen, aviation director of Clarksons Holidays before it was taken over by Court Line. This loan, first of £100,000 and later reduced after a repayment to £90,000, was to refinance borrowings Mr MacQueen had made to purchase shares in Doxford and Sunderland Shipbuilders, which were transferred to Court Line shares on the take-over. The liquidators have received £25,000 from Mr MacQueen.

The loan was never mentioned at board level and its existence was deliberately and effectively concealed in the books and not disclosed in any published accounts for 1972 when it was made.

"We regard the transaction as discreditable and the cause of serious loss", the inspectors say. The inspectors criticize the ordering of two Lockheed TriStars to use on five-year charter to Clarksons before it was taken over.

Financial Editor, page 29

Arsenal co-op chiefs facing a pay blast

The last full-time directors of one of Britain's biggest and previously most successful retail cooperative societies, the £124m Royal Arsenal Society, are facing a revolt by customer-shareholders.

It comes on the eve of transfer of control, after 57 years, to a part-time committee.

The society's annual report and accounts may be rejected at meetings called for next week because the retiring board has apparently raised its salaries even though the shareholders in December voted against a proposed rise of £1,250 per director. The dispute has been worsened because the accounts show a net loss before tax of £969,744 for the year ended January, 1978, and the society has unexpectedly borrowed £2m from its bankers.

A row over salaries is somewhat embarrassing, as the Royal Arsenal is the only retail cooperative society directly affiliated to the Labour Party. As the increases voted by the board to itself are not disclosed, it is not known whether the Government's pay guidelines have been breached.

Mr Richard Balfe, the society's own political secretary is organizing the revolt. He had circularized some active shareholders alleging "extremely disquieting features" in the annual report, which discloses a net loss—after allocations and apart from tax—for the first time since the war.

Last December, shareholders considered a report of a special tribunal recommending a salary increase of £1,250 per board member. The proposal was defeated by just nine votes.

But the annual report, just issued, states: "Committee salaries have been increased in line with the awards made to some senior staff for additional responsibilities in the management of the society."

It also discloses a substantial cut in the rate of dividend returned to customers by way of dividend stamps, blamed on the fierce supermarket price war started by Tesco after it dropped Green Shield trading stamps.

Mr Balfe is proposing that rejection of the accounts and board report is the only way to stop the increase in salaries awarded by the board to itself.

He stresses that the society remains firmly based, and with its assets the adverse trading results were not a disaster.

Board salaries stood at £6,947 in September, 1976, and in September, 1977, were £7,642. The latest figure is not disclosed.

The whole situation is complicated in that the members of the board are making way for a part-time committee, an historic change.

Before next week's meeting will be another special tribunal report recommending special awards of between £1,250 and £5,000 for loss of office, in addition to the contested salary rises which relate to protected pensions and other arrangements for existing board members.

Royal Arsenal trades over a wide area of South London, Kent and Surrey and has 428,883 customer-members.

Maurice Corina

Lucas closing five factories to reorganize aerospace division

By Clifford Webb

Lucas Industries, the largest aircraft components manufacturer outside the United States, is to close five factories in a huge reorganization of its loss-making aerospace division.

About 2,000 of the 12,000 jobs in the division will disappear over the next two years. Wherever possible the cuts will be achieved by natural wastage, early retirement and redeployment to other parts of the group.

The factories earmarked for closure are Liverpool (Victor Works), Bradford, Shipley, Hemel Hempstead No 2, and a foundry in Coventry. A new self-contained factory will be opened at Bradford to replace the existing Bradford and Shipley plants.

The biggest cut falls on Liverpool, where 1,450 are employed. News of yet another closure there is bound to lead to action by the unions to prevent the planned transfer of machinery from Liverpool to Lucas factories in the Birmingham area.

They are already in a ferment about the planned closure of British Leyland's Speke plant, GEC's factory in the East Lancashire Road and the possible closure of Birds Eye's Kirby

Mr Jack Creamer, a senior steward at Lucas Liverpool said: "This is another terrible blow for an area which is already facing a major unemployment problem.

"We shall be holding plant meetings tomorrow and will almost certainly ask our Birmingham colleagues not to accept the transfer of work from Liverpool."

Protests were made about the lack of consultation before the announcements to shop stewards at a series of regional and plant meetings with management.

Mr Brian Salisbury, deputy chairman of the Lucas Aerospace Combined Shop Stewards Committee, said: "We protested most vigorously about this blatant breach of the established procedure. We said we were only prepared to hear what they had to say and would then leave without comment to report to our members."

He said factory meetings would take place over the next two days to agree proposals to put before a full meeting of the combined shop stewards in Birmingham next Wednesday.

A statement issued later by the white-collar section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' representatives on Lucas' national negotiating committee hinted at possible industrial action throughout Lucas.

Rejecting the proposed closures out of hand it gave warning that they would be opposed with every means at the union's disposal "throughout Lucas Industries".

The company refused to make any official comment, and cancelled a press conference which had been called for yesterday afternoon.

However, a document issued to stop stewards in the aerospace division's electrical factories said that apart from a relatively brief period in 1976, they had been unprofitable since they were formed by the amalgamation of three competing companies.

Foreign tax holds BP income rise to 10pc

By Christopher Wilkins

Despite a further squeeze on profitability in the final quarter, British Petroleum increased its earnings last year from £179.8m to £250.6m.

But the results caused considerable confusion in the City because of an additional extraordinary item of £54.2m, representing an overseas capital gains tax levy arising from group reorganization in 1972; which left BP's net income only some 10 per cent up at £196.4m.

Further, BP announced that it had changed its system of accounting for deferred tax to move into line with a new accounting standard proposal. On this basis 1977 net income before the extraordinary item was £358.3m, up from an adjusted £338.1m in 1976.

The stock market's initial reaction was to lower the shares by 20p, but in later trading the price recovered to close unchanged at 746p.

BP's total sales were up from £10,581m to £11,997m, but its crude oil sales fell in volume from 79 million tonnes to 75.7 million tonnes. Sales of other products were modestly higher, up from 96.2 to 99.7 million tonnes, but the group reported that its income from chemicals was sharply down, falling from £48.8m to £18.9m.

General trading faced increasingly difficult conditions due to the surplus of crude oil and the decline in prices. Margins on shipping and refining, particularly in Europe, also remained depressed because of the continuing surplus of large tankers and distillation capacity.

However, income benefited from the buildup in crude oil production from the North Sea Forties field, and the group's stake in Sohio of the United States grew from 26 to 40 per cent as a result of the buildup of production from Alaska. Sohio's contribution to the group's net income rose from £19.7m to £29.3m.

Counting its share of Sohio's investment, BP's capital spending totalled £795m, but this was well down on the peak £976m invested in 1976.

Financial Editor, page 29

...l sale of ...rican ...s foiled

...Prest

...rnational's nego... ...sell some of its ...n assets have fal... The parties in... ...unable to agree on ...e purchaser, Union ... of South Africa, ...on the negotiations

...ential buyer was ...bsidiary of Union. ...ities were up for ...r. Pulp and Paper ...d has a 50 per cent ... Reed Nampak, of ...ds 52 per cent. The ...per is owned by ... and Co, a South ...mpany. Kohler ...outh African paper ...ing group is in... Nampak.

...declined to reveal ...was hoping to get. ...announcement con... negotiations was ...uary 26. The move ...Reed's stated policy ...ent in the face of ...in the United King...nada.

...to the deal may ...from the South ...overnment, which ...ict control on the ...ets.

...nesburg Stock Ex... ...been asked to relist ...PPI, Reed Nampak ...from March 20.

Community scales down growth prospects for this year

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 16

Growth this year in the Community's gross national product could be as low as 2.8 per cent in real terms, according to the latest estimate released today by the European Commission.

This compares with previous forecasts of 3.3 to 3.5 per cent, and a target of 4 to 4.5 per cent growth which Community finance ministers set themselves last November.

The Commission's gloomy assessment will be discussed by Mr Healey, the Chancellor, and his EEC colleagues in Brussels on Monday.

The hope is that this meeting could see the beginnings of an international effort, to be pursued at the two EEC summit meetings in Copenhagen in April and Bremen in July and at the subsequent western economic summit in Bonn, to revive the flagging world economy.

Some encouragement is drawn by Mr Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, both from the German-American rescue operation for the dollar and the general recognition that reflationary action by the strong "locomotive" German and Japanese economies will not by itself be enough.

The Commission estimates that on current trends British gnp growth this year could be 3.5 per cent, compared with no growth last year. This is higher than the growth rate forecast for any member state except Ireland, which is expected to achieve a rate of 6 per cent.

In its report this week, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) predicted that Britain's growth would be around 2.75 per cent. The difference is explained by the fact that the Commission gives more weight to the contribution of North Sea oil to the rate of growth.

Presenting the Commission's report on Monday, M Francois-Xavier Ortoli, the EEC Commissioner for Economic Affairs, will inform them that the expected growth rate last year of 2.4 per cent was only 1.9 to 2 per cent.

The Commission is slightly less pessimistic about employment. It estimates that the rate reached a peak of 5.7 per cent in the third quarter of last year, dropped to 5.5 per cent in January, and is likely to stabilize at around 5.6 per cent this year.

John Earle writes in Rome: Signor Giulio Andreotti's new Italian Government will aim at growth of 4.5 per cent in 1978 and inflation of not more than 13 per cent, a slight improvement on the 14.9 per cent rise in the cost of living index in the 12 months ending in December.



M Ortoli, Commissioner for Economic Affairs: gloomy assessment.

To achieve these levels Signor Andreotti said, it was necessary to keep the public spending deficit down to 24,000,000m lire (about £15,000m), thus leaving not less than 16,000,000m lire of internal credit available for the rest of the economy.

He did not go into details of how he proposes to reduce the public spending deficit to 24,000,000m lire from the widely accepted forecast that under present conditions it will exceed 30,000,000m lire.

Mr Carter aims to vet World Bank lending

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 16

The Carter Administration intends to strengthen its influence within the World Bank and other international financial institutions.

It is attempting to win support for tougher policies by these institutions toward countries that violate human rights, after opposition within the World Banks board last year by the United States executive director to planned loans totalling $500m (about £263m) to nine countries.

At the same time the Administration is pressing for sharp reductions in the salaries and benefits given to World Bank and International Monetary Fund employees.

It also plans to resist pressures to reduce its shareholding in these agencies, while pressing for increased aid contributions by the oil exporting countries.

These policies and aims are outlined in considerable detail in a special report prepared by the Treasury.

The proposals concerning salaries in particular will probably promote a furore within the IMF and the World Bank, as such matters have traditionally been handled confidentially by directors of these agencies.

The Treasury stresses that the Administration believes that the international institutions should be fully supported by the United States, that their economic and humanitarian achievements are substantial and that the United States can only maximize its influence within them by ensuring sustained financial contributions to them.

It also asserts that these institutions can directly contribute to strengthening American national security by reducing economic tensions and strengthening real growth in developing countries.

On this point the Treasury states that "the greatest threats to world peace now come from developing countries. The cost in the last decade of conflict or the threat of conflict in the Mid-East, Africa and Asia has been enormous."

It also notes that United States foreign aid consistently produces great benefits to the American economy. In terms of procurement, consultant services, interest income and employment, the economy receives more than two dollars for every single dollar actually paid by the United States to the international financial institutions.

The Treasury notes that external debts of developing countries have increased sharply in recent years, but the earnings of most of them have also increased significantly and that "there is no aggregate debt problem".

It points out that since 1973 debt rescheduling has only been necessary for Chile, Ghana, India, Pakistan, Sierre Leone and Zaire, out of some 156 developing nations.

The Treasury states that the government will only participate in reorganization of official debt in developing countries if the debtor nation implements prudent new economic policies, if there is no discrimination among creditor nations and if the debtor country agrees to make every effort to reorganize unguaranteed private credits on terms comparable to those covering official debts.

The new report boldly declares that the Administration "is now proposing to concentrate its leverage potential on three issues in the international financial institutions: human rights, salaries and other administrative concerns and accountability".

The Administration will seek mode documentation from the institutions on how they manage their affairs

It is proposing that the net-of-tax salaries received by non-Americans in these institutions be cut by 5 per cent to 10 per cent and the taxable salaries received by American employees be lowered by roughly 20 per cent.

Dollar is again in retreat

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

The dollar fell in all European markets yesterday in thin but nervous trading.

There was a particularly sharp fall against the Swiss franc, where the rate moved from 1.935 to 1.8775. Against the Deutsche mark, the dollar fell nearly one and a half pfennigs, while the rate against the yen went to 232.05, compared with 233 on Wednesday.

The dollar's effective depreciation increased to 5.58 per cent from 5.25 per cent.

Sterling gained three quarters of a cent, closing at $19145 but its effective exchange rate was unchanged at 64.3 per cent of its 1971 level.

Dealers said that continuing worries over the dollar's future remained a major force in the market.

Gold fell by $2.50 to close at $183.625.

Creditanstalt payout

Creditanstalt-Bankverein of Austria maintains its 10 per cent dividend for 1977 on a net profit of 183m schillings compared with 182m. The balance sheet shows a rise from 107,000m to 123,000m schillings.

BRITISH AMERICAN AND GENERAL TRUST LIMITED

MANAGERS: KLEINWORT BENSON

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. W. H. Conroy, and summary of the results for the year ending 31st December, 1977.

Income: Net assets per share as at 31st December, 15.5%.

Dividend: Total dividends of 1.65p per share—an increase of 17.9%.

Assets: Net assets per share as at 31st December, 1977 equalled 52p, an increase of 20.9%.

Borrowings: $4.5 million was borrowed on an overdraft basis. This has enabled a large part of the premium dollar element of the portfolio to be extracted while the commitment to the U.S. market has remained virtually intact. The £2 million released from the sale of premium dollars has been added to the gilt-edged holdings.

Portfolio: At the end of 1977 60.3% of the Fund was invested in U.K. equities, 16.4% in North America and 4.5% in other overseas markets. Approximately £4 million was held in gilt-edged stocks.

The Future: The Trust has considerable liquidity in the shape of the gilt-edged holdings which affords flexibility. When the time appears more propitious the overseas content, particularly North America, will be increased.

	1977	1976
REVENUE AVAILABLE FOR 'ORDINARY STOCK (Net)	£844,355	£718,880
EARNED FOR 'ORDINARY STOCK ('Increased during 1977 by the conversion of loan stock)	1.71p	1.48p
TOTAL ASSETS	£27,043,171	£22,702,219
Attributable to Ordinary Stock	£25,694,951	£21,027,324
Net Asset Value per Unit of 25p	52p	43p

Annual General Meeting—20 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3. Friday, 7th April, 1978 at 11.30 a.m.

...e markets moved

The Times index: 119.87+0.32
The FT index: 458.3+4.4

...8p to 242p	Milu Marsters	7p to 147p
...5p to 235p	Oil Exploration	10p to 214p
...10p to 620p	Pilkington Bros	5p to 460p
...6p to 224p	Rowntree Mac	5p to 380p
...8p to 223p	Smurfit	5p to 190p
...8p to 140p	Trihme Inv	8p to 608p
...2p to 527p	Unilever	6p to 482p
...5p to 171p	Wiley Hughes	11p to 190p
...5p to 118p		
...19p to 275p	Libanon	27p to 520p
...19p to 275p	Semtrust	7p to 198p
...26p to 668p	Southvaal	23p to 475p
...21p to 364p	Thomson Org	7p to 183p
...29p to 356p	Winkelhaak	22p to 242p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.74	1.68
Austria Sch	29.50	27.50
Belgium Fr	63.25	59.75
Canada $	2.20	2.13
Denmark Kr	11.12	10.62
Finland Mkk	8.30	7.95
France Fr	9.28	8.88
Germany Dm	4.07	3.85
Greece Dr	71.00	67.00
Hongkong $	9.10	8.65
Italy Lr	1665.00	1580.00
Japan Yn	465.00	440.00
Netherlands Gld	4.34	4.11
Norway Kr	10.50	10.05
Portugal Esc	78.00	73.00
S Africa Rd	1.89	1.75
Spain Pes	157.25	150.25
Sweden Kr	9.12	8.72
Switzerland Fr	3.82	3.60
US $	1.96	1.90
Yugoslavia Dnr	37.00	35.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

...their pulse. ...nities marked time. ...nm 93.5 per cent ...42.3 per cent). ...d 75 pts to $1.9145. ...exchange rate index

Gold lost $2.50 an ounce to $183.625.
SDR-$ was 1.22936 on Thursday, while SDR-£ was 0.643577.
Commodities: Reuter's index was at 1,394.9 (previous 1,394.4).

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Giro cuts cost of borrowing

National Giro is to reduce the cost of its personal loans by 1 per cent and increase the borrowing limit by £1,000 to £2,500. The new interest rates will be 8 per cent flat (about 16 per cent true) on loans in excess of £600 and 9 per cent (18 per cent true) for loans under £600.

Gire loan rates have been out of step with bank lending rate for some time

Societies chief denies poaching on banks

By Margaret Stone

A rap across the knuckles for the clearing banks came yesterday from Mr Ralph Stow, the chairman of the Building Societies Association, in response to bank complaints that the societies were "poaching" on traditional bank territory.

Mr Stow denied this categorically. Building societies and banks, he said, had always competed for small savings and deposits.

Over the past 10 years the banks' share had remained constant at 30 per cent of available deposits, whereas the building societies' share had increased from 24 to 41 per cent—"not at the expense of banks".

Speaking in Cardiff, Mr Stow pointed out that it was the banks which were in fact considering encroachment by contemplating entering the long-term housing finance market. But he considered that high management expenses would make it difficult for the banks to match building society terms.

Mr Stow said he would strongly oppose any suggested withdrawal of the composite tax arrangements. "It would be socially and no doubt politically undesirable to increase unnecessarily the cost of home ownership to meet the banks' competitive problems, and it would be most unwelcome to the Inland Revenue."

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Steel users call for bigger role in Brussels

By John Huxley

Significant steps to improve representation by British steel users within the European Economic Community were taken in London yesterday at a *meeting chaired by Sir* Richard Marsh, chairman of the British Iron and Steel Consumers Council.

The meeting coincided with a "Crisis—Steel '78" conference organized by the Institute *of Purchasing and Supply.*

Mr Laurence Kelly, vice-chairman of BISCC, told the conference that while his council represented most of the main bulk steel-user industries and was the bory to which the European Commission turned for a British view, important areas of the industry were still not represented.

It is estimated that there are more than 100 trade associations in the British engineering sector.

Viscount Etienne Davignon, architect of the so-called Davignon Plan to safeguard the Community's steel industries, has said it was impossible to consult each association separately.

His colleagues in Europe weer better organized. "In Belgium, Fabrimetal covers virtually the whole field", he said. "In France there is the Fédération des Industries Mécaniques et Transformatrices des Métaux. In Germany the VDMA covers the mechanical engineering industry."

Officials from more than 20 associations attended the meeting. Mr John Safford, BISCC's director, said later that it had explored ways in which representation in Brussels and Luxembourg could be improved

Last year United Kingdom steel exports were worth £677m; those of the steel-using industries some £12,000m.

Mr Kelly told the conference that he accepted the objectives of the Davignon measure, which he described as a protective straitjacket likely to be with us for two years. A balance needed to be struck between the inter*ests of producers and consum*ers.

"On this issue, the producers and stockholders have attempted to go well beyond the Davignon measures at the users' expense, thereby upsetting *any such* balance."

Mr Selwyn Kelly, director of the British Independent Steel Producers Association (BISPA), said that the association wanted a return to free competition in steel, but would support the short-term measures now in force and cooperate in "the sensible evolution of the longer-term moves to reshape steel's overall structure.

"Nobody sees any early revival in demand overall and the world growth of non-traditional capacity to produce steel competitively is undeniable and irreversible.

"European steel must therefore urgently review its 'body' image, and each industry, coordinating on a Community basis wherever possible, must formulate new strategies to shape their future size and product coverage.

"It is vital that they should not relax behind temporary protectionist measures in the vain hope that the new world will go away."

Shipowners reaffirm fears about unfair competition by Polish ships

By Peter Hill

Some of the ships being built in Britain under the terms of the £115m deal with Poland may compete with British and other Western shipping fleets in trade with third countries.

The United Kingdom shipping industry has vigorously expressed its concern at this possibility since the deal was signed last autumn, but ministers have sought to assure the industry that this was most unlikely.

Even so, it appears that seven of the 24 vessels could be used to open up new routes, initially between Poland and developing *nations. The seven large ships* in the package deal, each of 16,500 tons deadweight, have been designed with a shallow draught of not more than 8.35 metres in order to sail in and out of the Szczecin-Swinoujscie port complex in Poland.

Mr Ryszard Karger, general director of the Polish Steamship Company, which will operate the ships under 13½ and 15-year charters from an Anglo-British company, owning the ships, said: "The innovation consists in the fact that no bulk carriers of such size have ever called at shallow ports and there are many of them in the world. Ships of this type should thus open the way to new *lanes.*"

In the latest issue of *Polish Maritime News*, the official journal of the Polish Chamber of Foreign Trade, Mr Karger explained: "There will be seven of them, and four of the *ships will be equipped with* handling appliances.

"This is important in view of the fact that for many years yet, the ports of countries in the Third World, with which our seaborne trade is developing, will not be fully equipped. Our ships will handle themselves. The 16,500-tonners are universal bulk carriers."

British Shipbuilders is also building a series of fifteen 4,400 tons deadweight ships whimh will be used largely in the Baltic trades and will replace existing ships operating Europe.

However it is clear from the remarks made by Mr Karger that the larger vessels will have the capability for worldwide trading and his comments will undoubtedly be seized upon by the British shipping industry as a vindication of their fears.

Speaking in the Commons debate on the Polish deal last December, Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, said: "The small ships are likely to be used in Polish coastal trade where there is not likely to be a large number of British ships, and the large ships have been specially designed for Baltic ports, which reduces the likelihood of their competing with British ships." Preferential terms: Mr Simon Cotton, deputy director of the General Council of British Shipping, said yesterday that he had never had any doubt that the ships would be used in competition. "That in itself is not an offence", he said. "Our objection is if foreigners are given preferential terms."

The council's attention was now directed more towards the Government's use of aid and giving ships to countries which were competing with the United Kingdom when there was already a surplus of shipping in *the world and ample second*-hand ships available.

Tyne dispute may cost UK $500m order

Troubles surrounding the Polish shipbuilding order involving Swan Hunter on the Tyne may have cost Britain a $500m (about £266m) order to build two new technology vessels.

Melville Shipping Corporation of Canada wants two 350,000-ton liquid natural gas supertankers to carry gas from Melville Island in the Arctic Circle, where there are huge reserves of gas, to mainland Canada.

Th island is often surrounded *by ice up to 10ft thick, so the* tankers would also have to act as ice-breakers.

Mr Robert Alliston, one of the co-chairmen of the Melville Corporation development committee, said British yards had been considered to build the ships.

"But the labour problems in the yards, culminating in the troubles surrounding the Polish order, meant we had to remove *Britain from the short-list*", he said. "If the situation in British yards improves, there is a chance of reconsidering the situation."

If British yards were considered the order would be a major boost at a time when supertanker orders are negligible. One of the few yards capable of building such a vessel in one piece is Swan Hunter's Wallsend yard.

BCal puts specification for new UK airliner

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

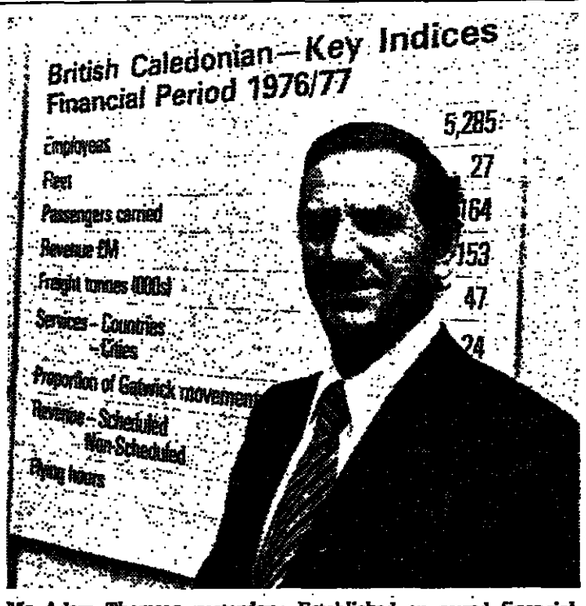
British Caledonian Airways, the main independent airline, has more than £100m to buy 20 new short-to-medium range airliners, but although it wants to buy British, it will not be "bullied into it" if the manufacturers build the wrong one, Mr Adam Thomson, chairman of the company, said in London yesterday.

Mr Thomson said that they had been having talks with British and United States manufacturers about an airliner to replace their fleet of BAC One-Elevens by about 1985. They wanted an aircraft with around 150 seats, capable of "stretch" to take more, and with a range of 1,500 to 2,000 miles.

Sir Peter Masefield, a director of the airline, said that a recent statement by British Aerospace indicating that they were going to "play second fiddle" to Europe on a new airliner, filled him with gloom.

"They have the men and the opportunities to produce exactly the aeroplane we want. The ball is in their court", Sir Peter said.

Mr Thomson was presenting the financial results for his group for the 13 months ended October 31, which showed a record trading profit of £9.5m.



Mr Adam Thomson yesterday: Established on sound financial base.

Group turnover was £158.8m, an increase of 36 per cent. Of the individual companies the airline generated £152.9m, Blue Sky Holidays £9.4m, and the hotel company £3.4m.

British Caledonian had carried two million passengers, 61.9 per cent on scheduled services and the remainder on charter flights. The overall passenger load factor (the amount of seats on offer which were actually filled) rose from 65.7 per cent to 67.5 per cent.

Mr Thomson commented: "Following the losses at the time of the oil crises we have successfully replenished our reserves and are now established on a sound financial base from which to launch future growth."

The most significant development during the year under review was the introduction of the first scheduled flights between Houston, Texas and London.

Protest by unions over cutbacks at CITB

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Two white collar unions yesterday called for an official inquiry into what they say is the abysmal state of industrial relations in the Construction Industry Training Board.

They are seeking a meeting with Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, to protest about plans to transfer or make redundant up to 78 of the board's 780 staff and *cut another* 30 established posts.

The Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs and the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff claim the reorganization plans are "being rushed through without consultation".

They say the reorganization, which includes the switch of 40 employees from London to the board's training centre in Bircham Newton, Norfolk, will hamper the work of the CITB.

Mr Terry Comerford, ASTMS divisional officer, said yesterday: "The staff just want to get on with the vital work of training for the construction industry but they are being prevented from doing so by constant reorganization and the lowering of morale."

He said the unions were hopeful that Mr Booth would grant their request for the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service to carry out a *full inquiry into relations* between management and employees at the board.

In a statement the CITB yesterday denied that the unions had not been consulted. "There have been a series of meetings *since the* board took its decision to reorganize both with the unions and with individual employees affected."

Potential for new North Sea surge

A significant new surge in North Sea oil development over the next few years was forecast yesterday by Dr J. Dickson Mabon, *Minister of State for* Energy.

Plans for the development of the Fulmar, Magnus, North Cormorant and Beatrice fields, were under consideration and the scale indicated that the North Sea was *still the premier area* for offshore activity around the world, commanding perhaps one-third of overall investments.

"The interest is there, the money is there, there is no sign that either is beginning to wane" the minister said at the opening of a factory extension in Dunfermline, Fife.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Transporting goods to Europe by tr

From Mr C. I. Rycroft

Sir, Having read Michael Baily's article (March 13), and *falling* into the category of "small haulier", I would offer some enlightenment to your exporting readers, by way of our own development, to show how little control the Department of Transport have over the *number* of road permits that they can issue for British trucks to travel within Europe.

Our company commenced trading in August, 1974. As a new entrant to this business, we could not operate without permits; neither, as a new entrant, were we entitled to receive any from the Department of Transport. We solved the "chicken and egg" situation by reading the small print of bilateral agreements made between Her Majesty's Government and *other* European governments.

In the case of France, we operated special road trailers carried by the French railways, which qualified us for the free issue of "road/rail" permits. Also, we found cargo for French trucks returning to *France from our shores*, therefore entitling us to further permits without having to plead for them from the Department of Transport.

The Department of Transport does publicize these possible methods of *obtaining* the required permits, and its officials are most helpful when asked to supply information. By dint of endeavour and diligent examination of "small print" of government agreements, we have been able to tailor our own permit allocations to existing business.

There seems a great tendency of late, for those companies and individuals who wish to enter HR transport, to asume that these permits are theirs by right, whereas established operators like ourselves should be required to "donate" our hard-won permits to operators not ... do some ground-wo... own.

Have I not read ... that "God helps he... himself"? If other ... of British industry ... to "wait for Godot" ... outs from governme... ments, is it any w... our international ... are losing ground to ... efficient European ... parts?

In an age where it ... able to denigrate ... I am full of admirati... work that the Dep... Transport do, ... impossible circums... make the allocation ... permits as equ... possible.

Yours faithfully,
C. I. RYCROFT,
Director,
Rycroft European T...
PO Box No 3,
Wimborne,
Dorset BH21 3AY.
March 14.

Measuring nuclear power hazards

From Mr R. L. R. Nicholson

Sir, There are two points in the letter of February 14 by Mr Goldsmith and his colleagues on nuclear power which require to be spelled out further to avoid misunderstanding.

It is not true that "no one has yet bothered to study the (nuclear) workforce and its exposure to radiation over the last 25 years". It has always been a legal obligation of all *employers of radiation workers* —and this includes hospital radiologists, medical research workers and some categories of miners as well as employees of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA), *British* Nuclear Fuels Limited (BNFL) and the Electricity boards—to keep comprehensive records of the radiation dose received by their employees in addition to the normal medical records: extensive records thus exist over a 25-year period.

While the relevant records of those who retired from UKAEA and BNFL could be used, earlier attempts by the UKAEA to collect corresponding information on other ex-employees ran into difficulties, but what is thought to be a satisfactory method has since been found.

The National Radiation Register, which was established by NRPB at the beginning of 1976, is therefore being extended to include as far as possible those who had left radiation work before the register came into being. The NRPB also intend to extend the register, which at present covers only employees in the nuclear industry, to cover other categories of radiation worker as well.

The authority have published a comparison of actual and expected deaths of UKAEA and BNFL male employees and pensioners over the period 1952-1974, with the numbers of "expected" deaths from a similar number and age grouping of the general public. *Within its limited scope*, the analysis showed that mortality in both organizations is no greater than that for the population at large.

Industrial pay for young graduates

From Mr Peter M. Slowe

Sir, I am completing very practical research in the field of industrial location for a doctorate at Oxford University. I have been offered three managerial jobs in industry, one in Europe and two in Britain.

The British jobs in both offer less than £4,000 for the first year, while the European job pays more than £6,000. The difference is typical.

No one would deny that British industry needs able, dynamic graduates. Yet, when we apply to work in industry, we are expected to make significant sacrifices simply to stay at home. Therefore, British in*dustry* will inevitably lose the best of us. We will go to Europe and America. The home recruits will be the dullards and the "stop-at-homes", and the rejects from the civil service and *from the academic world.*

The fact is that salaries during the first two or three years after leaving ... matter a lot—a ... the very high ... might possibly be ... after 28 or more ... sooner British ... this, the higher ... quality and ... British manageme... eighties and ...

Yours faithfully,
PETER M. SLOWE,
Nuffield College,
Oxford OX1 1NF.
March 14.

The correspondent ... the classification of ... waste as no mor... laboratory hope. ... small active plant ... mence operation ... year will be capable ... ing glass blocks ... active liquors and ... development of th... well beyond the ... stage.

It should be note... that development of ... for the solidificatio... is also being ... abroad. The Fren... ticular will shortly ... their process on a ... mercial scale. Clos... maintained with the ... groups.

Yours faithfully,
R. L. R. NICHOLSO...
Principal Economic ... Programmes and Fu... Officer, UKAEA, ...
United Kingdom At... Energy Authority, ...
11 Charles II Stree... London, SW1Y 4QP.
March 14.

Saudi dominance 'must put up oil prices by mid-1980s'

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Warnings that the world could expect a substantial rise in oil prices in the mid-1980s after a period of dominance of the oil market by Saudi Arabia were given by Mr Joseph Yager, of the Brookings Institution of America yesterday.

He said: "In the near future little or no unused capacity to produce and export oil will remain outside Saudi Arabia. The Saudis will then be able to determine the international price of oil by varying their own production and exports."

At a conference in Eastbourne of the world's leading independent oil tanker owners he said: "At some later time, possibly as soon as the mid-1980s, all of the capacity that Saudi Arabia is willing to develop will also be fully committed. An increase—possibly a substantial one—in the price of oil will then become inevitable, whether the Saudis want it or not."

Virtually all of excess capacity of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries would be in Saudi Arabia. A continued expansion of Saudi capacity and removal of the present production ceiling would be essential if Opec was to come close to satisfying projected requirements of oil-importing nations in 1985.

In that year demand for Opec oil was likely to be about 41.3m barrels daily. This would involve Saudi Arabia exceeding its present target production of 16m barrels daily by the early 1980s.

Business Diary, page 29

Lack of technician recruits threatens nuclear projects

By Derek Harris

Concern about the supply of skilled craftsmen and technicians, without which it would be impossible to attempt even a modest nuclear power programme in Britain, was expressed yesterday by the Institution of Nuclear Engineers (INE) in evidence to the Finniston inquiry into the organization of the engineering profession.

The INE said it was "very concerned" about the shortage of such technicians. One cause of wastage of skilled workers in the nuclear industry was the difficulty in recruiting younger people to replace those retiring.

"These young people are naturally unwilling to enter trades which offer them few material advantages over the unskilled worker and at the same time do not seem to give a clear prospect of advancement in status in later years," the INE states.

Any formalized career structure for the nuclear industry had to include an element of training and ought to be sufficiently flexible to allow for promotion according to an individual's merits.

While the INE was "reasonably happy" about the numbers of engineering and science graduates coming forward, it suggested that the nuclear industry itself should establish adequate training schemes.

*On the registration and licen*sing of engineers, the institution said that the licensing system already operating in the nuclear sector had proved its need. A registration system could be in the interests of the profession as a whole, but it should be administered by the Council of Engineering Institutions rather than by another body.

Distillers to contest EEC ruling in court

Brussels, March 16.—*Distillers Company* of Britain and the Belgian *Importers of BMW* cars have asked the European Court in Luxembourg to overturn pricing decisions made against them, the European Commission announced today.

Last December the Commission ordered Distillers to end a dual pricing system for its whisky and fined BMW Belgium for restricting competition.

An EEC spokesman said the appeals had been lodged in Luxembourg, but he had no further details.

Today was the deadline for BMW to appeal against the fine of 7.5 million units of account (£4.9m) imposed for its refusal to export *new cars to other* Community countries.

Distillers announced that it would comply with the Commission's directive to stop charging different prices to wholesalers selling its whisky in Britain and elsewhere in EEC countries.

The company took two brands off the British market and increased domestic prices of others to the levels charged in the rest of the EEC.

Advance indicators point to dip in economy next year

By Melvyn Westlake

For the *fourth* successive month the composite index of "longer leading" indicators has shown a fall. In February the index—based on only partial information—dropped to 112.9 from 113.8 in January. It now stands nearly 5 points below its October peak.

This index, compiled by government statisticians, and published by the Central Statistical Office yesterday, is used to identify future turning points in the business cycle.

Although interpretation of the index has to be cautious, it does appear to be signalling a downturn in the economy in the spring of 1979.

Past experience suggests that this composite indicator leads by about one year the actual developments that occur within the economy.

The composite indicator is compiled from four component *indices.*

These are short-term rates of interest, the Financial Times share index, total dwellings started in Britain and the net acquisition of financial assets by industrial and commercial companies.

CYCLICAL INDICATORS FOR THE U.K. ECONOMY

The following table is based on the CSO corporate indices of the business cycle in the United Kingdom published yesterday.

	Longer leading (4 indicators)	Shorter leading (5 indicators)	Coincident (6 indicators)	Lagging (5 indicators)
March	101.9	109.2	99.8	95.3
April	103.6	110.2	99.8	96.0
May	104.8	110.2	99.6	97.0
June	107.7	112.7	100.2	97.0
July	110.7	115.7	100.2	97.1
August	114.9	119.4	100.6	97.8
September	116.6	119.9	100.4	97.6
October*	117.5	119.4	100.4	97.9
November*	116.4	119.8	101.4	98.2
December*	114.5	121.9	102.5	98.8
1978				
January*	113.8	122.6	104.8	100.4
February*	112.9	—	—	101.8

* Only some indicators available.

MONEY SUPPLY

The following are the figures released for the monthly amount of money stock, seasonally adjusted at the mid-month make-up date:

	M1 £000m	Sterling M3 £000m	Percentage change over 3 months at annual rate M1	M3
1977				
Feb	18.5	39.3	3.5	—11.6
March	18.5	39.3	—3.6	—10.1
April	19.2	40.1	19.7	8.2
May	19.3	40.4	17.0	13.1
June	18.8	40.7	29.0	16.7
July	19.9	41.2	19.5	12.0
Aug	20.2	41.3	22.0	9.5
Sept	21.1	42.1	34.3	15.2
Oct	21.5	42.8	36.8	17.6
Nov	21.9	43.1	41.5	19.8
Dec	22.1	43.5	21.1	14.5

MONTHLY CHANGE IN STERLING M3 AND DOMESTIC CREDIT EXPANSION £m

	Sterling M3	External & for currency finance	Non-deposit liabilities	Domestic credit expansion
1977				
May	+253	—77	+216	+395
June	+303	+135	+259	+827
July	+507	—941	+146	—288
Aug	+59	—221	+86	—96
Sept	+868	—813	+67	+122
Nov	+284	—181	+194	+297
Dec	+401	—141	—153	+107
1978				
Jan	+992	—381	—247	+354
Feb	+488	—138	+62	+412

CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR 1977/78

Sterling M3 £m	Annualised growth rate %	Domestic credit expansion £m	Annual growth equivalent £m
4,874	14.7	2,396	2,600

Growth limits: 1977/78
Sterling M3: 9-13 per cent
DCE: £7,700m.

All these Bonds having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

NEW ISSUE

16th March, 1978

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Missing the point on money supply?

...s were able to take the 1.1 per cent ...in sterling M3 in the banking month to ...February in their stride yesterday. ...ed, with the authorities managing to ...ere in a modest amount of sales at the ... of last week and the start of this one— ...e-up day was on Wednesday—there ...s every reason for the market to feel ...onably relaxed about the March money ...ply outlook to the figures coming out ...tly after the budget.

...hat may be missing the point though. ...now that the recent bulge in monetary ...eth appears to have been overcome, ... gilt market should really be giving ...er more thought to the appropriate ... of monetary expansion from here on. ...n that the rate of rise in the general ...e level has fallen so steeply, the money ...ly is now expanding fairly fast in real ...s and there seems every reason to ...sider a monthly trend that annualizes ...ything like 13 per cent to be excessive ...this context it must also be a matter ...some potential concern that the recent ...ths of high monetary growth may be ...as the base for the Government's next ...etary target.

...ere the base for 1978 to be taken as ...average of December, January and ...uary, the Government would be able ...ake the gesture of dropping its ceiling ...terling M3 growth to 12 per cent and ...find that it could accommodate rather ... growth (in money terms) than if it ...met this year's 13 per cent target and ... continued with a 13 per cent ceiling ...1978-79.

...ish Petroleum

...yond the ...back

...1977 results are more than usually ...ised by oddities in its tax charge. It is ...e throes of switching its treatment of ...ed tax, which makes the difference ...een net income of £196.4m and £304.1m ...e new basis; it has paid United King... corporation tax this time of £115m ...ared to a credit of £76.2m in 1976; ... has written off £54.2m as an extra... ...ary overseas capital gains tax charge, ... which caught the stock market on ... after ...



...rid Steel, chairman of BP.

...p and for a time had the shares 20p ... for all that BP had warned about it ...ance.

...ding in the fourth quarter again ...d a deteriorating trend and BP duly ...he price for its heavy commitment to ...onomies of North West Europe. Over ...ar as a whole, surplus capacity meant ...the group's shipping and refining ...ions covered only variable costs and ...a negligible contribution to fixed ...and overheads. Germany, France and ...rland made losses and the United ...om only broadly broke even.

...keys to BP, however, lie in Forties ...and Alaskan production. By the year-...Forties was producing at 456,000 ... per day and Alaska at 730,000 bpd. ...ce the year end Forties has risen to ...ike 500,000 bpd and Alaska, disrupted ...ump station explosion last July, is ...ack on course for output of some ...bpd. The Alaskan benefits should ...ularly work through in the second ...hen BP's stake in Sohio will rise from ...sent 40 per cent to more than half.

...returns on this enlarged output will ...uenced by the strength of the world ...y, but despite the obvious trading ...inties—BP sees no sign of any ...

Court Line

A lesson learned?

The Department of Trade Inspectors' report into Court Line says that it is insufficient for a company to produce profit figures which rely on disclosure of accounting treatment for a reader of the accounts to receive the statutory "true and fair view" required by the Companies Acts. This principle is central to any debate on accounting standards.

An average reader of accounts, the inspectors say, looks to the stated profit figures and places less reliance on the accompanying notes. In other words it is not disclosure, which is all important, but reasonably standard presentation.

This must be right. The inspectors conclude that the last accounts produced by Court Line, although arguably treating individual items correctly, did not add up to an overall true and fair view.

It is the directors, whose sole responsibility the accounts were, who get the blame for this, with only minor criticism of the auditors, Robson Rhodes. In fact the section of the report which deals with accounting matters amounts to a practical description of most of the major controversies of accounting treatments over the past decade.

Everything from goodwill to currency translations appear for directors' interpretation. That the auditors' advice was often disregarded raises questions over the strength of auditors under British law. The one recommendation made by the inspectors that the concept of the "true and fair view" should apply equally to the directors' report as to the accounts themselves, seems eminently sensible.

Some problems over interpretation have since been solved by greater acceptance of accounting standards. But perhaps the most important standard which Court Line should have had—on leasing—has yet to be decided on. Ultimately lessors of aircraft to Court Line were the largest creditors, yet most of this was off-balance sheet.

The whole process of decided on accounting standards and how to enforce them is currently under review; the lesson of Court Line and other cases is that they need to be both firm and enforceable.

Smith & Nephew

Return to growth

The point that Smith & Nephew had put the Gala Cosmetics debacle, which involved write-offs of £4.83m in 1975, behind it was well taken by the market some time ago, so the news that full year profits were 23.4 per cent ahead at £17.3m and that current profits were running 20 per cent ahead of last year merely confirmed that S&N is back on the steady growth tack that characterized its pre-Gala record.

Its shares at 61p have now regained some of their premium rating. Assuming S&N is heading for profits of £20.5m this year, the prospective fully-taxed p/e ratio is 9.2, though the yield of 6 per cent is not out of the ordinary.

The most obvious scope now is the cosmetic business in the United States which, though slimmed down, still lost £600,000 last year. Further rationalization or closure seems inevitable this year, so there should be loss-elimination here.

Elswhere plastics which saw 7 per cent sales growth last year and a 50 per cent profits growth should continue to do well. So should medical and health care, which accounts for 40 per cent of sales and 45 per cent of profit, on the back of good export demand. On the evidence now, then, S&N's premium status seems justified.

This month sees the tenth anniversary of British Leyland as a public company. It appears that Mr Eric Varley, the Secretary of State for Industry, is about to present Parliament with a U-turn in the financing and monitoring of this company.

Sir Harold Wilson, as Prime Minister, when accepting the Ryder plan, told the House of Commons on April 24, 1975: "I would like to make it clear from the outset that, following the initial injection of equity capital in 1975, the release of further stages of government funding will be determined in the light of the contribution being made to the improvements in the performance of British Leyland by better industrial relations and higher productivity. This is a condition to which the Government attach great importance."

On February 27, 1978, Mr Varley said: "I am not sure that the old formula which we had, announced in April, 1975—where everything was conditional upon a certain performance—is the best way of going about it. I do not think it is entirely realistic to suggest that."

In short, the House was told in 1975 that investment would be conditional on progress being made in Leyland's performance. Now we are told that this is not realistic. The old order changeth!

Conservatives in 1975 made it quite clear that we were highly sceptical of the Government's "bench mark" approach. Investment in large-scale industry cannot be turned on and off like a tap—turned off when people strike and on again when they go back to work.

Yet Leyland was not a normal industry. It was an ailing giant which could not have attracted investment funds from the City. Only taxpayers' money could rescue it. Naturally, MPs felt a duty to watch over taxpayers' funds.

If the Government in 1975 did genuinely start out by hoping it could follow the bench-mark approach it was soon blown off course by events. Unfortunately, the chairman of the National Enterprise Board and the author of the Leyland rescue plan were one and the same person—Lord Ryder. During 1975 and 1976 Leyland met neither of Sir Harold Wilson's original conditions. Productivity was stagnant and strikes just as frequent.

Lord Ryder, as chairman of the NEB, could hardly be expected to be tough on his own creation. So, in May, 1976, while admitting that performance had been disappointing in certain respects, the NEB still advised Mr Varley to approve the first £100m loan.

Michael Grylls

Setting a timetable for profitability at British Leyland

'Altogether the group has now had £200m in loans, ostensibly for investment, since 1975, at least half of which has been used to pay wages. All this, despite no tangible progress in producing more vehicles more efficiently'

In fact, in the 1976 audit period the annual production was 784,800 vehicles—the lowest in the 10-year history of Leyland. Productivity in vehicles per man year was 4.28, as opposed to 4.41 in 1975. Hardly an encouraging picture—not much evidence there of monitoring or meeting bench-marks.

Again, in May, 1977, after the appalling toolmakers' strike, the Secretary of State for Industry told the House: "First, a complete return to normal working and to planned and agreed levels of output and productivity should be achieved quickly. If, as a result of lost production through industrial disputes, cash continues to flow out of the company at the present rate, the drastic review of the cars plan will have to take place at the latest during March, and the consequent cut back in major investment plans, and substantial unemployment, will become inevitable at that stage."

Yet, in July, 1977, the NEB told Mr Varley that further funds of up to £100m should be made available, subject to the NEB being satisfied that progress in industrial relations reform is maintained. At this time the NEB's monitoring was totally ineffective. It was recommending further money, knowing that productivity was abysmal and that Leyland was on the way to "losing" 250,000 vehicles through industrial disputes.

The NEB also said that further money would be required before March 31, 1978.

Of this £100m so far only £50m has been drawn, in September 1977, to get over a cash flow problem. The House of Commons was then in recess, but a number of us reacted critically. Was not the £100m for investment? If progress had been good, why did Leyland need a £50m lifebuoy two and a half years after the Ryder rescue?

Clearly, the bench mark formula was in disarray. Then, in January this year, Leyland needed a temporary short-term loan of £50m, negotiated surprisingly with commercial lenders. Whose guarantee was given for this?

Altogether, Leyland has now had £200m in loans, ostensibly for investment, since 1975, at least half of which has been used to pay wages. All this, despite no tangible progress in producing more vehicles more efficiently.

This sad story pleases no one. In Parliament we all want a healthy viable British Leyland. Today there is a good leader in Mr Michael Edwardes. He has made a promising start in restructuring the group. He has, however, yet to face his main challenge of productivity improvements and tough decisions to reduce overmanning.

If the bench mark formula is to go, can MPs abandon any hope of monitoring progress? A further £400m vote of confidence, now under contemplation, would take a lot of swallowing. As yet, we have no profit and loss figures for 1977, although they are unlikely to make encouraging reading.

While I am sure Mr Varley would like to give Mr Edwardes his £400m, Conservative MPs will demand tangible evidence of improvements in performance over at least a six-month period, before approving a cash injection. I believe, too, that Parliament should set a timetable for a return to genuine profitability. Lord Ryder suggested 1982. Any further aid must be tied to achieving viability by this date and might well be written into a contract between the NEB and Leyland.

Real improvements must be made in quality control, in improving the number of vehicles per man year, and action taken over loss-making plants. Clear progress in these three areas will, at the same time, boost profits.

These, in turn, will enable Leyland to generate its own funds for investment. Once measureable progress can be seen over six months or so, an increase in capital could be the right move.

If that is proposed, the position of the 100,000 remaining private shareholders will need to be considered. In the Scheme of Arrangement they "stayed in" Leyland, keeping 5 per cent of the shares. This was sealed in the High Court.

It could be claimed that since the Prime Minister's 1975 statement is enshrined in the Scheme, a change from that policy to "no-strings" finance would be a breach. It might be fairer to make the 100,000 shareholders an offer for their shares.

There may be a real disadvantage to Mr Edwardes in a £400m hand-out. He has to instil into his works managers the need to manage. If there is £400m "in the kitty" it may be difficult for them to establish firm control over their workforce.

Our need to see tangible results is more likely to lead Leyland back to the disciplines of the market place. When that happens—as it must—Mr Edwardes can raise genuine capital and loans in the City. That is his wish and I am sure he is right.

The author is member of Parliament for Surrey, North West, and vice-chairman of the Conservative Industry Committee.

Future of French banking in the balance

Ian Murray

Pandemonium broke out on the Paris Bourse on Monday morning when it became clear that the left had failed to score sufficiently in the first round of the elections to be sure of winning in the second. Shares changed hands so quickly that it became impossible to fix rates for them immediately.

And on a day when the average rise was in the order of 9 per cent and about 15 stocks saw rises of between 15 and 29 per cent, the frantic activity surrounding the Compagnie Financière de Paris et des Pays-Bas still managed to catch the eye. It took a quarter of an hour to fix its rate and during the day about half a million shares in it changed hands.

The following day, after the communists and socialists signed their new agreement of intent, things quietened down, although the growing conviction in the market that the left now just cannot win has kept things buoyant at the Bourse all week.

The new agreement between the partners of the union of the left makes it quite clear why there should be so much activity and in particular so much surrounding one of the biggest private financial and banking companies in the country. A Bill to be presented during the first session of parliament promises nationalization if there is a government of the left and, if there is still no agreement about the range of industrial concerns involved, there is nevertheless total agreement—as there has been all along—that the state should take over all control of credit.

Control of credit constitutes the corner-stone of the common programme, as the partners of the left believe that this alone will enable them to bring about the social transformation which they have been promising the electorate.

As it is, private banks have only 20 per cent of the total funds on deposit in France. The remaining 80 per cent is divided equally between the big four nationalized banks and the trustee and savings banks—like the huge Credit Agricole, which is the third largest bank in the world.

Because the left sees these essentially friendly society banks as being based on the very sort of mutualism they advocate, there is no intention of bringing them under state control, although the likelihood is that provision would be made to ensure customer and worker representation on their management boards.

So the plans for the banking sector are confined to the big private banks and finance houses, some 700 establishments in all, many of them interlinked or subsidiaries of one or other of the half a dozen or so really big concerns.

In France the concept of nationalization was devised by the trade unions immediately after the First World War, but it made headway only when it was taken up by the Resistance Movement during the Second World War. With the Liberation popular feeling was widely in favour of it and General de Gaulle had little trouble passing a range of nationalization Bills through the immediate postwar parliament.

Banks were among the prime targets for nationalization, since popular feeling was all for knocking over "the wall of money", which had been denounced before the war by President Edouard Herriot. The Bank of France was taken over completely by the state and the shares of the four other major banks—two of which have since merged—were also acquired.

The state has since put 25 per cent of their shares on the open market, but is still very much in control of them even though they are run as commercial concerns.

When the nationalization Bill was taken through Parliament just before Christmas, 1945, there were only one or two areas of disagreement—and one of them centred on the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas. The finance commission wanted to include it but M Pleven, the Minister, argued that it was essential for the recovery of the country that business banks like it should not pass out of private hands.

He was twice defeated by the commission and it took the intervention of General de Gaulle in the debate to secure its exclusion.

M Pleven's arguments of 1945 are identical to those of M Barre in 1978. The government believes that it is essential to maintain a mixed banking network if the strength of the franc is to be maintained and foreign investors are to have confidence in the economy.

The Banque de Paris et des Pays-aBs is the eighth largest holder of money on deposit in the country and its parent group is one of the most powerful influences in the French economy.

The other main private holding company which the left wants to takevore is the Compagnie Financière de Suez, which set up a financial empire with the money received as indemnity after its concession on the canal was ended by nationalization in 1956.

All deposit banks aspire to become "Banques d'Affaires" and the nationalized giants are no exception. They have moved into the leasing market in a very big way. They have spread their range in recent years and formed overseas links with other banks in the process. Eurodollars and petrodollars have forced further specialization.

This all caused a surge of banking activity in the late sixties and early seventies with new branches opening up everywhere. Since 1974, however, things have gone into reverse. The duplication of services has led to allegations of waste, especially by the left, which is intent on rationalizing matters should it come to power.

At the same time, this will present inevitable and unacceptable—to a left government—redundancies.

If the left wins, then nationalization is inevitable to allow the structural changes necessary to implement the common programme while maintaining the economic balance. Some economists on the left are apprehensive about what will happen if nationalization takes place, but, politically, it is something to which the left is totally committed.

If the governments hangs on to power, as is likely, then there will certainly be no talk of nationalization. However, the fact that the left so nearly won will give President Giscard d'Estaing a powerful argument to adopt policies more in line with socialist thinking.

Private business banks would be kept very much in business to prove to the world that the French economy is not under state control. Nevertheless, it could well be that thought will be given to ways of curbing the growth of their empires, which the left point to as the unacceptable face of capitalism.

Business Diary: Paperback righter • Ace in space

...for a new novel by the ...n writer Thomas Gif... *The Man from Lisbon* ... Hamilton, £4.95), ... that the security ... Waterlows were ...Conned" in the aftermath ...Alcan brilliant fraud.

...e 1920s a Portuguese ...ter called Alves Reis ...d Waterlows to print ...rtuguese banknotes to ...e of £2m. What was ... about the fraud was ...e notes were not ... in the commonly ...y accepted sense of ...d, in so far as they ...inted with the correct ... the correct paper.

...is special about the ...owever, is that Water... ...till very much with us ...years on, is a subsidiary ...British Printing Cor...

...thought reports of ...ns' death were greatly ...ed and protests were ... by an invitation to ...y's launching of the ... as living proof of ...point, the corporation ...resented yesterday by ...arter, managing direc... Waterlow (London). ...ally, paperback rights ...book are assigned to ...BPC subsidiary, Futura. ...20s episode ended on ...ippy note. Waterlows, ...then head was Sir ... Waterlow, a former ...yor of London, had to ... £700,000 in damages ...

...American insurance ... Marsh & McLellan, the ... biggest, and their ...leagues C. T. Bowring, ...the day when the des... of a space shuttle will ring the Lutine Bell at Lloyd's.

Philip Smith, M & M's senior vice-president, is here promoting the idea of space insurance now that more and more European launchings are planned in the next decade and the day of the space shuttle draws nearer.

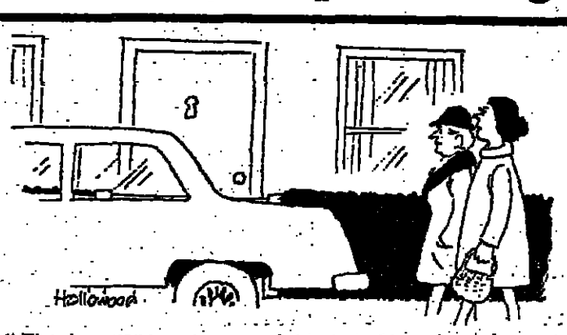
Backed by George Baker from the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Dr Tim Howell from the European Space Agency, Smith has been persuading the London insurance community of the importance of extra-terrestial cover.

Over the past 13 years premium income from this source has come to $45m (about £23.6m) with the London market leading the way. Unfortunately, most of this was wiped out by the 529m failure of a European satellite last year.

But the ace the brokers have been playing in London is the shuttle. This offers theoretical 100 per cent reliability—with a need for payload cover of up to $100m, compared with the present limit on space shots of $50m.

London is being asked to gear up to this kind of risk with the carrot of a huge increase in premium income. The scale of this is brought home by the fact the space shuttle flights could be setting off at the rate of one a week and the total sums insured in any one year could be as high as $30,000m (about £15,700m).

The cover being offered for space shots is comprehensive except for loss of a satellite because of war.



"They're very *nouveau riche*—wacking great redundancy payments for three members of the family."

We have received an undated note bearing neither name of sender nor address or telephone number. It proclaims as a "major triumph" the fact that the Interpet Super Maxomatic Mk III Combined Heater/Thermostat (possibly something to do with fish tanks) has been approved by the "very stringent" electrical testing authorities in Queensland. The reader wishing to find out more is advised to contact a firm in Woolloongabba, Queensland, but we didn't have the time.

■ The London School of Economics and Imperial College, London, are putting a toe into a potentially promising academic backwater, that of business history.

One immediately discernible area of promise is the funds available, for British industrial and commercial companies have already put over £200,000 towards setting up a unit with a director of professorial status (the job is now being advertised). Foundations both here and abroad are being asked for more.

Among the research themes being canvassed are the development of modern management in Britain (possibly a very brief study) and the reasons for business failure (possibly a rather longer inquiry).

The unit's financial affairs will be in the hands of a committee chaired by Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, the Director of the LSE, and academic matters in the hands of yet another committee under Theo Barker, Professor of Economic History at LSE.

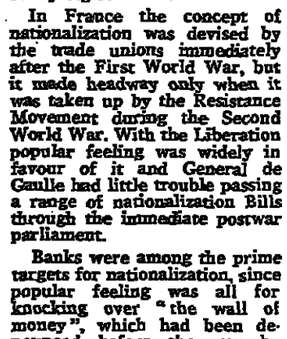
Barker wrote *The Glassmakers: Pilkington 1826-76*. The unit's appeal for funds is sponsored by Sir Alastair Pilkington, chairman of glass-makers Pilkington Brothers.

■ Perennial rumours that Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, or its United Kingdom arm, Charter Consolidated, will make a bid for Selection Trust (Charter has more than 30 per cent) were revived yesterday with the announcement that Chester Beatty is to retire as chairman and from the board of Selection.

City legend has it that there is a gentleman's agreement between Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of Anglo, and Beatty, whose father founded the company, that there will be no takeover while Beatty is in harness.

However, the rumour is unlikely to be proved true, at least for the time being, since apart from anything else Beatty, who is 70, is to retain links with the company by becoming president.

His successor as chairman is John Du Cane, 56, who will retain his posts of chief executive and managing director. It is very largely the Beatty-Du Cane axis that has been responsible over the last 10 years or so for developing Selection away from a mining finance house living on investments to one developing its own projects.



John Du Cane

A correspondent assures us that in discussing a schools investment game organised by a bank a pupil from a Northern Ireland school said: "We made a bomb when Glenlivet was taken over by a United States firm".

Sime Darby

Sime Darby Holdings Limited

INTERIM RESULTS

FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1977

- *Interim Dividend up from 11% to 20%*
- *Directors propose one-for-one Bonus Issue.*
- *Half-year consolidated results improve. Turnover up 15% Profit attributable up 10%*
- *Principal subsidiaries improve results in first half.*
- *Directors foresee the profit growth continuing.*

SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED RESULTS

	Six months to 31st December 1977 M$ million	1976 M$ million	Year to 30th June 1977 M$ million
TURNOVER	708.59	615.60	1,367.93
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	81.36	74.26	151.43
PROFIT BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	28.67	26.00	55.54
EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	.01	.04	39.94
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SIME DARBY HOLDINGS LIMITED	28.66	26.04	95.48
	Interim	Interim	Total
Rate of dividends – gross	20%	11%	*40%

*The Final Dividend for 1976/77 included a 5% Special Dividend related to an extraordinary profit on sales of land by a subsidiary.

Kempas (Malaya) Berhad became a subsidiary on 27th December last, but has been treated as an associate in this half year. If treated as a subsidiary, profit attributable would have increased by M$2.4 million. For the year to 30th June, 1978 it will be treated as a subsidiary.

Copies of the full Interim Report sent to shareholders may be obtained on request from The Secretary, Sime Darby Holdings Limited, Wisma MISC, Jalan Conlay, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

16th March, 1978

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Prices steady as buyers hold off

A lack of selling helped shares to keep their poise in spite of mildly disappointing figures from BP and a warning on future profits from BAT Industries.

Though the market has been particularly sensitive to this sort of company news in recent weeks it did not react yesterday and the *FT* Index closed 4.4 up at 458.3, its best level of the day. Money supply figures just about matched up to most hopes.

The lack of interest either way was shown up by a total of bargains marked which fell below 5,000 fo rthe first time in a week. Most dealers felt at the outset that shares were in for a second day of losses. Their explanation of the subsequent and rather surprising firmness was that the institutions with their comparatively healthy cash positions are in no mood to sell at present.

The shares in A. A. Jones & Shipman, the machine tool group, are notably firm at 110p ahead of yearly figures which could show profits up from £1.7m to £2.4m. Such a gain would indicate the benefit to margins of rising output. In the main factory it is thought that one third of the labour force at the Leicester factory own shares in the group.

The underlying strength of the gilt market helped Government stocks weather the money supply figures. Both longs and shorts dipped after the announcement of the 14¾ per cent growth but regained their position on an absense of sellers.

At the shorter end dealers were kept fairly busy throughout the day with stocks moving up and down within an eighth of their previous overnight level before closing around a sixteenth up on the session. The *Government* Broker again activated the short "tap" and is thought to have sold a small amount of £96 13/16 before finishing at that level.

In active trading, though light turnover, longs ended about an eighth down.

In a firm stores sector some investment buying put a couple of pence on Marks & Spencer at 147p, GUS "A" at 282p. Boots at 204p and House of Fraser at 134p. The sector generally tended to edge better on hopes that the promised tax cuts in the Budget will boost consumer spending. Other groups to gain ground yesterday included *Woolworth* at 65½p, Debenhams at 100p and Sears at 60½p. In front of their figures W. H. Smith added a penny to 152p.

Good interim results and the forecast of another record year was enough to nudge Waring & Gillow 6p better to 86p in small but aggressive trading.

There was something of a false start in BP when the figure were announced. Because extraordinary items were not immediately apparent the shares were initially marked down to 720p. But second thoughts quickly put the situation right and the shares went back to around their overnight level and closed at an unchanged 746p. Trading was not heavy though a good demand was reported on Wall Street.

Other oil shares fell in sympathy and though most rallied Shell closed 6p off at 500p. A firm spot was to be found in Oil Exploration which closed 10p better at 214p after news of Phillips Petroleum's discovery had put an end to the long-running dry well talk.

In motors Lucas Industries discounted news of the Liverpool closures to move 4p ahead at one stage and to close 2p up at 264p. Hoping for more news on the takeover front Ford dealers W. J. Reynolds gained 2p to 39½p while British Leyland, where the comment has been a little kinder of late, were 2p up at 25p at one stage. But Henlys, one of its main retail outlets, slipped a penny to 119p after this week's meeting.

After the chairman's comment at the annual meeting that profits this year would only be maintained with difficulty, both the BATs issues slipped a few pence. But they subsequently fallied to unchanged positions with the Industries at 305p and the Preferred at 265p. But a brighter picture emerged from the Rank meeting where the forecast of a higher return this year lifted the shares 4p for a close of 248p.

In light trading the shipping sector was little changed. British & Commonwealth added 2p to 267p while Furness Withy at 253p, European Ferries at 112½p, P & O Dfd at 97p held steady on the day. LOFS went a penny down to 30½p.

Infront of full-year figures due on Monday Booker McConnell has been attracting good support this week, rising 16p to 223p last night. The market is impressed with the reorganization after the loss of the Guyana sugar assets and is now looking for profits of up to £24m, against £15m. The expanded wholesale food side should be a strong contributor, and a quicker than expected turnround in engineering is on the cards.

Saga Holidays, due in the market soon, was reported to be heavily oversubscribed when lists opened yesterday.

Gold shares tended easier again as the bullion price drifted down but dealers report that there are buyers around. Among those to lose ground were Free State geduld at £16 5/32, President Brand at £10, President Steyn at £7¾ and Western Rand Consolidated down 13p to 104p. Harmony at 364p, Libanon at 520p and Kloof at 453p also fell back while Consolidated Goldfields slipped 4p to 178p.

De Beers dfd lost 9p to 328p but market men feel there is likely to be little trade today as the shares go ex-dividend in *New York but remain cum-dividend* in London. South Africa and on the continent.

At 145p Ever Ready was firm in a further response to the partial price increases granted for later in the year.

Speculative interest in J. Jarvis lifted the shares several pence to 166p at one stake while Stewart Plastics traded between extremes of 130p and 143p before settling at 140p a gain of 1p. Also favoured was J. & J. Hyman which ended 5p up to 37p.

In drinks Arthur Bell attracted more support on the strength of its figures and rose another 6p to 224p, but the lack of follow-through speculative demand left Highland Distillers 2p off at 142p. The pick of the "blue chips" was Glaxo which rose 7p to 527p, and Beecham where the rise was 10p to 620p. News that Reed *International's negotiations to* sell its South African interests had proved abortive had the shares jumping about in late trading and after hours. Though *they were unchanged at the* official close they fell swiftly after hours unti lthey reached 111p, a net loss on the day of 6p.

A recent firm spot in the shipping sector is Ocean Transport which has held steady at 129p for the past week. With figures due at the beginning of April, Ocean is the first of the major shipping groups to report, and the market is looking for around £44m-£45m against a previous £41m. Assuming a maximum dividend, the shares yield a prospective 9.5 per cent.

Equity turnover on March 15 was £71.20m (14,966 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, *were BP, Shell, BAT Ind, GEC,* ICI, Burmah, Beecham, Dunlop, Distillers, Coats Paton, Fisons, Grand Metropolitan, Marks & Spencer and Tate & Lyle.

Latest results

Company int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
BP (F)	1,471.0(1,286.0)	304.1(338.1)	92.6(87.4)	15.12(12.91)	—	22.10(19.98)
Richard Clay (F)	9.37(7.43)	1.27(1.14)	10.99(7.84)	1.86(1.83)	12/5	3.16(2.8)
Wm Collins (F)	53.75(49.03)	3.14(5.22)	16.1(28.7)	2.55(2.55)	5/5	4.6(4.1)
Dentsply (I)	—(—)	0.03c(0.01c)	—(—)	—(—)		—(—)
Falcon Mines	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	25(—)	12/5	—(—)
Gbbns Dudley (F)	51.75(36.54)	4.2(3.8)	21.6(19.29)	1.83(1.64)	11/5	2.52(2.24)
HTV Grp (I)	14.78(9.39)	1.8(1.19)	8.27(5.25)	3.0(2.5)	9/5	—(6.5)
Johnson Gp Cl (F)	20.2(17.0)	2.04(1.50)	14.43(11.50)	2.62(1.41)	15/4	3.89(3.48)
Milln Marsters (I)	3.32(2.25)	0.01(0.12c)	—(—)	2.30(2.5)	12/5	—(3.85)
T. Robinson (F)	6.62(6.61)	0.99(0.95)	11.3(11.3)	2.64(2.36)	—	3.38(3.02)
Pirelli Cable (F)	89.18(69.65)	8.03(4.82)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Sharpe & Fsbr (F)	15.28(13.79)	0.90(0.85)	5.3(5.1)	1.67(1.42)	26/5	2.37(2.12)
Sime Darby (I) a	708.59(615.60)	28.66(26.04)	—(—)	20b(11b)	31/5	—(—)
Sime Dby Ldn (I)	46.79(37.68)	0.92(1.0)	—(—)	1.4(1.4)	5/6	—(—)
J. C. Small (F)	3.72(3.26)	0.07(0.09)	3.44(4.12)	1.0(1.0)	—	2.0(2.0)
Sm & Nephw (F)	163.18(145.47)	17.35(14.04)	5.75(—)	1.6(1.44)	—	2.43(2.1)
Geo Spencer (F)	12.54(10.50)	0.53(0.26)	5.0(2.2)	1.71(1.49)	2/5	2.46(2.2)
Waring & Gllw (I)	20.18(17.11)	1.43(1.03)	—(—)	1.0(0.95)	9/5	—(3.2)
James Wilkes (F)	7.69(6.67)	0.47(0.23)	7.2(3.3)	2.36(2.06)	31/5	3.75(3.4)
Wolseley-Hs (I)	63.72(46.06)	4.46(3.09)	—(—)	3.32(3.02)	4/7	—(5.6)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in *Business News dividends* are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Ringgits. b In per cent. c Loss.

Reshaping proposals for Botswana subsidiary

By Desmond Quigley

Botswana RST, the ill-fated nickel/copper project, has announced the long awaited restructuring of its 85 per cent-owned operating subsidiary BCL. But neither the restructuring nor the heavy losses made last year will provide the bonanza some speculators had hoped for.

Botswana made an attributable loss of Pula 38.5m (about £24.3m) in the year to the end of last December, taking the accumulated loss to P102.5m (about £64.7m) from P64m.

Despite the crisis in the nickel industry, BCL is to stay in operation and will even aim to maintain the record rate of output of the second six months of 19,307 tonnes of matte.

BRST does not anticipate any significant increase in nickel or copper prices this year and states that without such increases BCL is forecast to incur "substantial" operating losses throughout the year and will be unable to repay its indebtedness and as a result BRST will be unable to pay any dividends for the "foreseeable future".

The complex restructuring proposals will result in the principal shareholders—Amax and Anglo American Corporation of South Africa/Charter Consolidated axis have just short of 60 per cent—having to put up a further P51.8m on top of the commitment—estimated at a cost of P21.6m—to further capital projects.

Redfearn Glass report delay

The Monopolies Commission has been allowed more time to prepare its report on the Redfearn National Glass takeover attempts from Rockware Group and United Glass.

The report was originally intended to go to Mr Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, next Tuesday but now the date has been put back to April 15.

The decision was made "following representation from the commission that there are special reasons why the reports cannot be made by March 21."

Last month Rheem International, the United States company which started the bidding, pulled out of the battle as it thought success was unlikely.

By law the Secretary of State can allow one extension of not more than three months on any one reference.

Confident IMI is well placed for growth

By Tony May

On the outlook for its first year as an independent company, Sir Michael Clapham is confident that Imperial Metal Industries is well placed to increase both turnover and profits "significantly", given a climate favourable to industry.

Stressing that the group, *which used to be controlled by* ICI, is now completely independent, Sir Michael says that no one of some 76,000 shareholders controls as much as 3 per cent of the issued shares. Analysis of the reconstituted share register shows that about 56 per cent of the equity is *held by institutions, who between* them represent thousands of small savers and investors. The other 44 per cent is held by individuals including IMI *employees and pensioners.*

As one of the country's top 100 industrial concerns—with about 27,000 employees in the United Kingdom and 6,000 overseas—and with its very wide spread of institutional and private shareholders "we see it as our duty to aim for security, for a steady growth of income and not least for adding to the assets of the company by retaining enough profit for new investment", Sir Michael adds.

The directors will propose at the anual meeting a change of name to plain IMI.



Sir Michael Clapham

Saga offer for sale heavily oversubscribed

By Bryan Appleyard

The ofer for sale of 35 per cent of the equity of Saga Holidays was oversubscribed twelve times.

County Bank received applications for 25.5 million shares compared with the 21.1 million shares on offer.

The shares are to be allocated as follows: a weighted ballot for applications up to 900 shares with successful applicants receiving 200 shares, applications for more than 1,000 shares will receive about 7½ per cent of the number applied for with a minimum of 200 shares.

Letters of acceptance or regret are to be sent on Tuesday and dealings will start on Wednesday. Jobbers Akroyd and Smithers and Smith Bros, will be dealing in the stock.

Saga is the first new company to come to the market this year. It specializes in off-season exclusive holidays for *elderly people. The offer at* 105p per share valued the company at more than £6m.

Drummond Assurance rescue plan

By Margaret Stone

*A rescue operation for Drum*mond Assurance, the friendly society which was ordered to stop taking on new business last week, is likely to be mounted by the Family Assurance Society. Family, with members of 2,000 and assets of about £150,000, is expected to propose the *engagements of Drum*mond should be transferred to it.

Mr Robert Morrison, of Planned Savings Life Assurance, Family's chairman, indicated yesterday that the proposed transfer was a "goodwill" gesture which will ensure the management of the policies of the 180 members of Drummond, which has assets of soe £16,500. No new policies will be issued under the Drummond umbrella.

Drummond was ordered to stop taking on new business because the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies was concerned about the group's operating expenses and also its connexions with Drummond Investors, which may be wound up. The funds are secure but members would have had to have borne increasingly heavy administration costs.

Associated Fisheries may have hit bottom

Shareholders in Associated Fisheries who attended yesterday's annual meeting may have heard the worst that will befall their group. Mr Paul Tapscott, chairman, told them that he was "extremely conscious of the concern of members over the heavy fishing losses sustained in the opening months of the new year".

Interests outside fish are being built up, but he added, "the impact is unlikely to be sufficient to prevent an overall group loss for the first six months' trading". However, the chairman hopes to remark in July with the interim bulletin that the worst is past.

That, for what it is worth, is the good news from a group faced with the destruction of the British fishing industry. Its profits before tax jumped from £1.9m in 1975-76 to £3.5m last year, but this climb cloaked a big stumble in the second six months as a scarcity of shipping grounds began to tell.

The solution lies in a new *EEC Common Fisheries Policy*, but the chairman admits that one has still not been concluded. Meanwhile, a third of AF's trawling fleet is laid up.

Until interest outside *fish*, which already account for one half group assets, are stronger AF can console itself with a strong balance-sheet, at least in the sense that the group has its fleet well written down with cash accumulating.

At all events, the shares rested at 47p. Since last year's figures came out at the beginning of February the shares have weakened from 55p.

Hanover and BTI Euro contrast

By Christopher Wilkins

The divergent trend in the profitability of banks specializing in the Eurocurrency markets has been further underlined by results from two London merchant banking subsidiaries of big American commercial banks, Manufacturers *Hanover Limited and Bankers* Trust International.

Despite the squeeze on the dollar, which has depressed profits in sterling terms, MHL achieved 10 per cent growth to top the £5m mark. Having held out for some time against the downward pressure on interest rate margins, the bank's management of syndicated loans was down from $9,400m to $8,200m, but it considerably increased its activity in the *bond markets, being involved in* 37 issues compared with 29 in 1976.

The balance sheet increased in size from £116m to £134m, but this is largely explained by a big rise in year end trading positions, up from £18.1m to £39.3m, chiefly comprising CDs. Fee income from underwriting and trading acounted for some 50 per cent of profit.

BTI, by contrast, reported profits down from £1.39m to £1.24m, and the fall would have been much bigger but for a £500,000 clawback of an earlier loan loss provision. The bank's business emphasis has been *changing an dthe balance sheet* contracted from £95.6m to £80.9m.

East Drie attack on SA tax

By Our Financial Staff

A sharp attack on the "highly discriminatory" and "penalizing' effect of existing South African taxation on successful gold mines has been made by Mr R. A. Plumbridge, chairman of East Driefontein.

Last year, for the first time, the whole of the mine's profit was subject to taxation and the State's share of profit, which, in aggregate,, amounted to R83.3m, on a pre-tax prfoit of R155.9m, or 53 per cent. In adition there was a R9.1m compulsory loan levy.

In his annual report, Mr Plumbridge comments: "The fact that members, who put all the capital and took all the risks in the establishment of the mine, received as their reward only one third of the distributable profit for the year, while the State took the rest plus a large loan levy, clearly demonstrates the *penalising effect that the exist*ing tax legislations has on successful gold mines such as East Driefontein".

The industry is hoping to raise the matter with the authorities and to seek the same taxation method as applies to the base metal industry, at least.

Last year East Driefontein made pre-tax profits of R155.9m compared with R87.3m but paid out dividends of only 78 cents a share compared with 75 cents a share the previous year.

Allied Insulators win Blakey's acceptance

Blakey's (Malleable Castings) has recommended acceptance of the offer by Allied Insulators for the remainder of the equity of Blakey. The terms are 52p cash or seven Blakey shares for every six Allied.

The move follows the purchase by Allied of 1.9 million Blakey shares, also at 52p each, from Centreway Securities. Centreway has agreed, ith the consent of the Takeover Panel, to withdraw its offer of 48p cash.

Centreway's stake was 50.59 *per cent.*

MILN MARSTERS GROUP
For figures see table. Board foresees satisfactory year but last lear's peak may not be reached.

SHARPE AND FISHER
Figures, see table. A 11 per cent rise in sales means reduction in volume. Signs of situation improving.

ROTAFLEX (GREAT BRITAIN
In annual statement chairman talks of pressure on overseas margins. But company poised to exploit economic upturn when it occurs.

CHARTER CONSOLIDATED
Harris Bankcorp Inc has bought Charter's 40 per cent in Australian Merchant Bank, International *Pacific Corp. No financial details.* Bank of Australia has 20 per cent of IPC, and N. M. Rothschild 40 per cent.

CONS GOLD AUSTRALIA
To sell 60.17 per cent stake in Commonwealth Mining Investments (Australia) to National Mutual Life Association of Australasia at $2.45 a share. Sale worth $9.43m.

Briefly

TILLING-LINER
Thomas Tilling has received acceptances totalling 92.45 per cent in respect of offer for Liner Concrete.

BROAD ST HOUSE
Trafalgar House Developments has let 23,000 square feet on first, second and third floors of its new office development at Broad St House, to Bank of Scotland.

C. E. HEATH
Group has bought freehold property known as Shipping Federation House for about £3.6m.

DATA RECALL
Pre-tax profits for 1977 £123,000 (£41,000). Turnover £612,000 (£387,000).

AFRICAN LAKES
AGM has been changed to May 18; as a result of change, dividend payment of 4.4p will now be May 19, not May 4.

BCA ACQUISITION
Scheme of arrangement to effect acquisition of APCM not already owned has been approved.

ANGLO AM IND
Pre-tax profit for 1977 R66.4m (R66.1m). Earnings a share 151.1 (160). Dividends 70 (60).

NORFOLK CAPITAL
First quarter saw improvement in hotels division and bigger property rentals, Mr. Maxwell Joseph, chairman told annual meeting.

General Vacancies

also on pages 12 and 13

PIGMENT PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Foreign-based company seeks for its Swiss headquarters *a highly qualified*

Chemist, Physicist or Process Engineer

with several years' experience in the area of pigment manufacture and development, who will be responsible for developing and introducing new production processes.

Essential qualifications for the position are a graduate degree in chemistry, physics or process engineering and a good knowledge of the field of pigment conditioning. The candidate must also be prepared to show an above-average standard of work. Knowledge of German and French would also be an asset.

This position offers scope for advancement. Interested candidates are invited to apply with full particulars to **Box No. TT 56, 8 rue Halévy, 75441 PARIS CEDEX 09, France.**

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD DUBLIN.

Electrical, Mechanical and Chemical Engineers

Consequent on growth in the demand for electricity with the related expansion of the system and also the development of overseas consultancy activities, the Electricity Supply Board has a number of vacancies throughout the organisation for Electrical, Mechanical and Chemical Engineers. These positions provide excellent opportunities for career development.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a Primary University Degree in Electrical, or Mechanical, or Chemical Engineering, or equivalent and have taken appropriate subjects in the final examination.

Experience: Applicants should have a few years relevant post-graduate experience. Experience in at least one on the following areas is desirable

- the design, construction, commissioning, operation, or maintenance of thermal power stations or
- the design, manufacture, or supply of plant for thermal power stations
- design, construction, or maintenance of communications systems
- design, planning, or operation of Distribution systems.

General: The Graduate/Professional Engineering Salary Scale has a maximum of £7,030 per annum. Starting salary will be commensurate with experience.

The full range of Personnel benefits are available including a Superannuation Scheme and a Medical Provident Fund.

Appointment will be on a probationary basis for a period of twelve months.

Application forms and full details may be had by writing to:—
Ref: MD/504, Recruitment Administration, Electricity Supply Board, 27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.
The latest date for receipt of written requests will be Friday 31st March 1978.

BOOK PUBLISHING

Octopus Books, located in Mayfair, is continuing the expansion of its international publishing programme. We require energetic, experienced and where appropriate *qualified staff to work on a wide range of highly illustrated general books.*

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Good salary, LVs, flexible working hours, non-contributory *pension scheme.*

مكتبة من الأصل

Saga of for sale heavily subscri

By Bryan Appleyard

The offer for sale of the company at the end of days was oversubscribed times.

County Bank, which is acting for the applications for 2,900 shares, compared with the 1,900 shares on offer.

The shares were allocated as follows: applications for 900 shares received 100 shares, applications for 1,000 shares will receive 90 per cent of the shares applied for, with a minimum of 100.

Letters of regret are to be sent out and dealings on the Stock Exchange are expected to begin next week.

John Smith's and Scottish Newcastle are dealing in the shares.

Saga is the company to come to the market this year. It has specialised in insurance services for elderly people. The 105p per share price values the company at more than £20m.

surance on R R International

Rank trading on target

By Our Financial Staff

Rank Organisation is running close to the estimates and Mr Harry Smith, the chairman, confirmed at the annual meeting that a substantial improvement in profits before currency adjustments is likely this year.

In a review of the outlook statement to shareholders he referred to the efforts being made to improve efficiency and the lack of profitability and the lack of provision for subsidizing activities which, for fundamental reasons, are likely to respond to these efforts. This, in some quarters, was construed as indicating a decision to close Rank International was under consideration. Mr Smith stressed that this is not the case and that considerable efforts were being made to improve the performance of this company under extremely difficult circumstances.

The improvement in performance during 1977 "is a considerable achievement" he said. It was due to the efforts and determination of the company's management and the support it has received from the employees and customers. These efforts are continuing and the board expects to achieve a further improvement in operating efficiency this year. He is encouraged by the fact that sales this year have been at a significantly higher level than for the same period last year. The rate of loss has, therefore, been further reduced and additional progress is expected during 1978.

The longer-term problems of this operation were concerned with the need to bring it to a level of profitability relevant to the investment involved and the board was faced here with difficulties through the present excess in world capacity, besides the increasingly high costs of developing new product lines.

He again emphasizes the major impact of currency adjustments on the group profits before tax. While currency rates fluctuate significantly during a year, the results would be distorted and it is "therefore increasingly important to judge our performance and progress by profit before currency adjustments as it is that profit which is under our own control, and this is the best basis for judging the performance of the group".

Good first quarter is on the way at Alcan

Mr Nanthannel V. Davis, chairman of Alcan Aluminium, told shareholders at the company's fiftieth annual meeting in Montreal that Alcan should show improved first quarter figures when the results are available in the latter half of next month. This is based on Alcan's January figures, combined with an up-to-date appraisal of the company's likely level of sales.

He indicated that the aluminium industry should continue to grow during the coming decade. "We have confidence that future growth lies ahead, but we believe the rate of growth is not likely to be as robust as the historical rate", said Mr Davis. He forecasts an average 5 per cent annual growth rate in primary aluminium consumption during the next decade compared with a compound 8 per cent growth rate over the past half century.

Three main facts account for the lower growth expectations for primary aluminium; slower economic growth in the major industrialized countries, the expectation that economic growth in the lesser developed countries may not pick up rapidly in the near term, and the progress being made in recycling which would have some impact in the demand for primary metal.

Currency rates threaten profits levels at B A T Industries

By Michael Clark

A warning of a possible profits setback was given to shareholders by Mr Peter Macadam, chairman of BAT Industries, at the annual meeting. He said that it would be difficult to maintain last year's profit level. The news was a depressing factor in the market.

At the present time, with five months of the current year gone and exchange rates at their current levels, he believes that the maintenance of last year's level of profit attributable to BAT Industries shareholders is as much as the group can expect. Even this will only be achieved with some difficulty.

Nevertheless, looking beyond the immediate future, the underlying growth prospects of the business, he affirmed, remained strong.

Last year pre-tax profits of BAT increased by 11 per cent to £416m on sales 10 per cent ahead at £6,210m.

Mr Macadam expects all four divisions to maintain or increase their profits before tax, but in turn also expects the proportion of group taxation overall to rise from last year's lower than usual level.

In the tobacco division volume continues to increase, and in local currency terms pre-tax profit overall is expected to increase. In the US there are indications that the steps taken by Brown & Williamson are beginning to stem the decline in market share but the operating expenditure vital to success is having its effect on profit.

In the retail division the High Street battle in this country is eroding profit but in the US Gimbels & Saks had a good last quarter in 1977 and the group looks forward to better results for the year overall.

Meanwhile, the slight slowing down in the paper division in the second half last year has been halted while in the cosmetics division profit is returning to its upward trend.



Mr Peter Macadam, chairman of BAT Industries.

H. Wigfall once again spurns bid from Comet

By Tony May

Unmoved by the higher terms from Comet Radiovision, the board of Henry Wigfall is adamant that the bid, which values the group at about £14.2 is opportunistic and unacceptable. Wigfall says that it totally ignores the underlying value and strength of the television rentals' business.

The continuing and increasing stream of income and cash flow from these rental contracts is one of the keys to future profits at Wigfalls. As these contracts may be bought and sold like all other assets, the board has estimated the current market value of the sets and other equipment on rental. It amounts to over £25m

Holders of 45 per cent of the equity have already come out against the Comet offer and the board says that rather than take a short-term gain they are looking instead towards the longer-term prospects of Wigfall. Steps taken by the board are expected to enhance the profit potential

In pointing out the disadvantages of accepting the offer, the Wigfall board notes that the high cash component of the bid could make accepting shareholders liable to capital gains tax, and claims that even on the increased terms a reduction of 20 per cent would be suffered on the income from a shareholders investment.

Big gains to come on Paris Bourse

The Paris Bourse has room to make further substantial gains despite advancing 9 per cent on Monday and 4 per cent yesterday, stockbrokers' analysts said in Paris.

Most of them consider that market fundamentals have changed, and not only because of the present political considerations.

Fears that French political and economic structures would be changed after a Left Wing election victory have been allayed. Generally the market is confident that the ruling coalition will remain in power after the second round of the parliamentary elections on Sunday.

There is a growing feeling also that the country's economy is much healthier than a few months ago and that inflationary pressures are abating.

A number of technical features also seem likely to support the market at least until about May.

It is also believed that with the New York Stock Exchange depressed, German and Japanese markets dull because of appreciating currencies, and London looking unpromising for capital gains, Paris will have considerable attractions after the elections.

Generally, French institutions are not heavily stocked with equities,

cord year forecast Waring & Gillow

...er record year is fore- Waring & Gillow (Hold- ...e furniture and cloth- ...p headed by Mr Manny ... the Leeds United FC ...n.

... six months to Septem- ... the group pushed up ... profits by 40 per cent ... £1.39m on turnover raised ... £7.1m to £20.1m. The ... profits rose from ... to £1.39m while the ... division turned a ... loss into a profit of ... with the help of a ... employment subsidy ... the Government. The ... dividend has been ... 10 per cent to 1.62 ...

... meantime plans for ... pansion continue and a ... of new branches will ... ed shortly.

... reports that the ... in the clothing indus- ... also affecting the cur- ... However, the furni- ... sion continues its up- ... The shares rose 6p ... esterday.

d Fisher hit bott

Ericsson rings up £63m

L. M. Ericsson, the Swedish electronics manufacturer, reports profits for 1977 up 7.1 per cent at 553m kroner (£62.7m) before tax and special adjustments. Sales were up 36 per cent at 7,830m kroner (£890m).

Sales outside Sweden again accounted for 84 per cent of the total. Ericsson is a world leader in telephone, especially exchange, technology. Its AXE electronic exchanges helped the consortium of which Ericsson was a member to win the giant Saudi Arabian telephone contract last December.

Banque Nationale setback

The effect of the dramatic reversal in the United Kingdom's external financial position is referred to by Sir Patrick Reilly, chairman of Banque Nationale de Paris, in his annual statement. For the first time since 1970 pre-tax profits suffered a decline, which was the result of the severe drop in interest rates.

The group's strength in London is its basic commercial banking business which it continuously improves and develops. The bank looks forward in 1978 to developing its leasing services to its clients and also to involvement in export finance.

First-half peak at Wolseley-Hughes

Commenting on a jump in pre-tax profits from £3m to a record £4.4m for the six months to January 31, the board of Wolseley-Hughes says that all the chief divisions have contributed to the results. The group's Merchants division has had a very busy and successful half year, although the electrical companies have continued to face difficult trading.

While sales in the agricultural and gardening division are higher than they were a year ago, Lawnmower sales to date are mainly to the trade. Orders for agricultural machinery remain steady. The engineering division has benefited from large contracts in the Middle East. The underlying established business shows a small increase in profit at the end of the half year.

Recovery year at George Spencer

As was hoped at half time, the 1977 profits of George Spencer are good. A small rise from £216,000 to £233,000 was achieved in the second six months, but the group did enough in the first half to clinch a recovery from £260,000 to £537,000 before tax for the full year. This was achieved on sales of £12.5m against £10.5m.

The board proposes to increase the group's borrowing powers and to raise the preference dividend from 3.5 per cent to 4 per cent to avoid restrictions on its scope and prospects.

Scrip and bumper half at Sime Darby

With Sime Darby Holdings' profits for the six months to $74.3m to $81.3m, the board notes that increases were achieved by all the main subsidiary companies. A one-for-one bonus issue of shares is proposed, but these will not rank for the latest interim dividend.

The chairman states in the annual report that the company's financial strength provides both a base and the opportunity for future growth and development. The fortunes of a group like Sime Darby are subject to many factors beyond its control but there is reason to believe that the current year should show an improvement over the year under review. In short, the board looks forward to the future with confidence.

...rt Benson's ...st venture

...t trust arm of mer- ...kers Kleinwort Ben- ...uching its second fund ...e Kleinwort Benson ...Investment Trusts. As ...indicates the fund will ...clusively in investment ...panies with a view to ...longer-term growth of ...d income.

...ed for the bank's ...e 50p units are avail- ... the general public. ...dealing will be on the ...day of each month.

...ge rate hits ...n Collins

...conditions were ex- ...difficult ar publisher ...Collins, for most of the ... in the United King- ...d more particularly ... The combined effect ...ns contributed signifi- ... the reduction in pre- ...fits from £5.2m to ...r the year to Decem-

...estimated that the ...ning of the pound has ...international trading ... at least £500,000 and ...on resulted in an ex- ...ss of £310,000, on the ...current assets held by ...h a gain of £258,000

...ures exclude a surplus ...erty sales at £259,000 ...f with £138,000, and ...inary costs related to a ...ario during the year ...00, against £63,000.

...ce by Johnson Cleaners ...attack ...SA tax

...e chairman of Johnson ...leaners notes that this ...ord for the group. The ...al improvement made ... second half of 1977 ... only due to a much ... performance from retail ...ming. This has been ... partly by resilience of ... partly by strong mea- ...ken to contain costs.

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...estimated that the ...ning of the pound has ...international trading ... at least £500,000 and ...on resulted in an ex- ...ss of £310,000, on the ...current assets held by ...h a gain of £258,000

...ss appointments

...cessor to Mr Chester ...tty at Selection Trust

...P. Du Cane, managing ...nd chief executive of ...Trust, has, in addition, ...ted to succeed Mr A. ...eatty as chairman when ... retires on June 8. Mr ... become life president. ...k Kleeman is to join ... and Sir Ronald Prain is ... on the same date.

...J. Benson and Mr E. E. ...in the board of Inter- ...Westminster Bank.

...F. Mills has become a ...f BICC Cables and, from ... will become executive ...f BICC Metals. At the ...mpany he succeeds Mr ...G. who remains on the

...ce Wildsmith, a director ...Chainbelt, has been ...resident of the Mechan- ...tiling Engineers' Asso-

...Philip Conway has been ...naging director of F. W. ...ie succeeds Mr R. A. ... who is to retire. ...J. Dronfield, Mr N. Z. ...d Mr P. G. Killik are ...e partnership of Quilter ...Goodison on April 11. Mr ... and Mr J. R. Whitting- ...retiring.

...ter Thompson is now ... director of Chloride ... succeeding Mr Bryan Price, now managing director of Chloride Automotive Batteries.

Mr R. A. Palfreyman has been made chairman of Mansion Development Group. Mr P. J. Gilman becomes chief executive. Mr G. B. Gregory continues as managing director.

Mr Alan Green, the vice-chairman, has assumed the chairmanship of Wolstenholme Bronze Powders following the death of Mr P. L. M. Rink.

Mr L. H. Smith, deputy chairman and managing director of Allnatt London Properties and Guildhall Property has been elected chairman and managing director, succeeding Mr R. W. Diggens, who remains on both boards.

Sir David Nicholson, chairman of Rothmans International and formerly chairman of British Airways and Mr K. M. Townsend, director of group services, have joined the board of CIBA-GEIGY (UK), on thereafter of Lord Glendevon and Mr J. A. Rodgers.

Mr Gerald Ratner joins Mr Leslie Ratner as joint managing director of Ratners (Jewellers). Mr Leslie Ratner remains chairman. Mr Mazarrat Hussain, company secretary, has gone on the board.

Mr Gerald Paxton has joined the board of Savage Industries Group,

What B·A·T Industries did in 1977...

Increased turnover to £6,212 million, raised pre-tax profits by 11%, manufactured in 78 countries, employed 250,000 people and contributed a net £142 million to Britain's balance of payments.

Tobacco Division

The Division is the free world's largest manufacturer of tobacco products with a turnover of £4,104 million and £348 million operating profit in 1977. The subsidiary and affiliated companies operate 118 tobacco factories in 51 different countries. Exports from the USA include Kent, Kool, Lucky Strike, Pall Mall and Viceroy; and brands exported from the UK include well-known house names such as Benson & Hedges, John Player, State Express and Wills. A BAT cigarette is the brand leader in 38 countries.

Paper Division

In 1977 the Paper Division's turnover totalled £552 million and operating profits were £53 million. The principal interest is Wiggins Teape, which makes a variety of industrial papers and an extensive range of speciality papers such as Idem carbonless copying paper, as well as high grade printing and writing papers. The company has 18 mills and factories in the UK, and 5 more in Belgium, France and Eire. Outside Europe, there are mills in Brazil and India, 5 factories in Africa, and a 25% interest in Associated Pulp and Paper Mills in Australia.
The Division also has a 50% interest in Mardon Packaging International, Britain's second largest packaging company, with 100 factories – mainly in the UK, France, Germany, Canada and the USA.



Retail Division

In the USA, the Group's interests comprise Gimbel Brothers with 38 department stores, Saks Fifth Avenue with 31 high fashion stores and The Kohl Corporation with 96 stores, mostly supermarkets. In Brazil, Supermercados Peg-Pag is a supermarket chain of 38 stores. In Britain, International Stores operates 730 supermarkets and self-service stores, and the Division also owns Kearley & Tonge the grocery wholesalers. Other retail interests include trade investments in Canada and Denmark and a 25% interest in the Horten chain of 58 department stores in West Germany. Retailing turnover in 1977 was £1,391 million and operating profits were £24 million.

Cosmetics Division

The Division comprises the Houses of Yardley, Lenthéric, Morny, Cyclax, Juvena, Germaine Monteil, Scandia and Tuvaché. Their perfumery, cosmetics, toiletries, soaps and skin care products are sold in 143 countries and manufactured in 38. The principal establishments are in the UK, USA, Canada, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, France, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, South Africa, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. Turnover and operating profits were £105 million and £3 million respectively in 1977.

...and how

"During 1977, turnover increased by 10% to the record figure of £6,212 million, with a pre-tax profit increase of 11% to £416 million. This has been a year of solid growth, particularly in the light of the impact of a rising pound on our overall results and continuing difficult world economic conditions. Net profit attributable to the shareholders of B·A·T Industries has risen by 24% and we have increased dividends by 21.3%.

After providing for inflation, the amount available for dividends and to finance real growth rose to £158 million from £124 million, an increase of 27%.

Our worldwide tobacco business has had a good year. The tobacco industry is still growing and, despite increased competition, our business in total grew faster than the industry as a whole.

In retailing, we increased turnover worldwide but, despite this, profit declined, largely due to disappointing results from Gimbels and Saks Fifth Avenue in the USA.

In the UK, International Stores' operations improved substantially, benefiting from the rationalisation programme and from the acquisition of F J Wallis.

The Paper Division had a very satisfactory year, increasing turnover by 21% and profit by 56%. In particular, Wiggins Teape, the principal part of the Division, increased its operating profit by 62%.

The Cosmetics business continued to expand its sales, though not its profit, which experienced a fall from £5 million to £3 million. This is a fiercely competitive business. I am pleased to be able to report that profit is returning to its previous pattern of growth.

Despite the problems we have encountered, 1977 was an encouraging year, confirming as it does the value of our broad spread of interests.

Group Profit Summary	1977	1976
	£ millions	
Turnover	6,212	5,637
Operating Profit	473	430
Profit before taxation	416	374
Net Profit attributable to B·A·T Industries:-		
before inflation retention	210	170
after inflation retention	158	124
Dividends	44	36
	pence	
Earnings per ordinary share	62.4	51.2

Prospects

I expect all four Divisions to maintain or increase their profits before tax, but I also expect the proportion of Group taxation overall to rise from last year's lower than usual level.

The final results, expressed in sterling, will depend very much on the exchange rates ruling at the end of next September. With five months of the year behind us and exchange rates at their current levels, I believe that maintenance of last year's level of profit attributable to B·A·T Industries' Shareholders is as much as we can expect and that this will only be achieved with some difficulty. Nevertheless, looking beyond the immediate future, the underlying growth prospects of the business remain strong."

Peter Macadam, Chairman.

B·A·T INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Tobacco·Retailing·Paper·Cosmetics·Worldwide

Copies of the Report & Accounts and the text of the Chairman's speech at the Annual General Meeting are available from the Secretary, B·A·T Industries Limited, Westminster House, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JE.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

International

Airco still looking for takeover bidder

Airco, the American manufacturer of a diversified line of industrial and medical products, says it is continuing to seek a company to make an offer for all its shares.

Several companies have shown interest and Airco is presently involved in preliminary discussions with one company, but no offer has yet been received, Airco said.

In London a BOC International spokesman said that the company stands by its statement of February 9 that it has *no intention of selling its* 49 per cent stake in Airco.

BOC raised its holding to 49 per cent from 33.5 per cent in February by buying 1.8 million shares at $43 each. Response to the offer was so great that BOC sought Airco board approval to tender for the rest of the shares, but this was refused.

The Airco board said that the BOC offer was too low if it was for a complete takeover and that a price of between $50 to $55 a share would be fair.—Reuter.

Heinz problems

H. J. Heinz expects 1978 profit gains to be aided by strong performance from its Heinz US division, but it is experiencing problems in its British and Canadian operations, Mr Paul Renny, director of banking and financial relations, said in New York. Although the British unit's profits rose by 5 per cent for the nine months to January 25, grocery chain trade wars and price cutting had been hindering sales volume.

Goodyear to expand

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company of Cleveland, Ohio, says that it plans capital expenditures of more than $400m (about £210.5m), up about $100m from 1977 capital spending.

The company says that the money will be used to modernize and expand its major manufacturing and research and development facilities. This year production will begin at a new radial tyre expansion at the Gadsden plant, while in 1979 production will start at a new radial facility in Lawton.

Middenstansbank

Nederlandsche Middenstandsbank NV announces in Amsterdam that it expects profits in *this year to exceed* the fl98.2m (about £21.8m) announced for 1977, the chairman, Mr Wim Scherpenhuijsen Rom said in Amsterdam. *It was difficult* to be more specific at present because of the changing role of banks, which are expanding into new *areas. The market* for banking services, he thought, was not likely to expand so rapidly in future, and the planned *development of* a "post-bank" from the Dutch Post Office Savings Bank and Postal Giro System was a further unknown factor.

Société Generale

Net profit of Société Generale de Banque rose by 9.7 per cent to 1,600m Belgian francs (about £24.6m) in 1977 from 1,400m *in 1976*. Belgium's largest bank has announced. The bank said that it is proposing a net dividend of 204 francs a share, compared with 189 francs. The balance sheet total of Société Generale de Banque was 652,000m francs at the end of 1977, up 11.1 per cent from a year ago, when it stood at 586,800m francs.

Deposits of private customers *rose* by 10.7 per cent in 1977 to 397,900m francs. Deposits from the banking sector climbed 15.2 per cent to 192,200m francs from 166,800m francs.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	6½%
Barclays Bank	6½%
Bk of Crdt & CMC	6½%
Consolidated Crdts	6½%
First London Secs	6½%
C. Hoare & Co	*6½%
Lloyds Bank	6½%
London Mercantile	6½%
Midland Bank	6½%
Nat Westminster	6½%
Rossminster Acc's	6½%
TSB	6½%
Williams and Glyn's	6½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 3%, up to £25,000 3½%, over £25,000 4½%.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Tel 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1977-78 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
51	29	Airsprung Ord	51	+1	4.2	8.2	9.5
155	106	Airsprung 18½% CULS	155	+2	18.4	11.8	—
39	25	Armitage & Rhodes	35	—	3.3	9.4	14.9
150	105	Bardon Hill	150	—	12.0	8.0	10.3
112	51	Deborah Ord	112	—	5.1	4.5	9.0
228	108	Deborah 17½% CULS	215	+2	17.5	8.1	—
147	120	Frederick Parker	130	—	12.0	9.5	5.1
147	135	George Blair	146	—	15.0	10.2	5.8
58	36	Jackson Group	47	−1	5.0	10.6	5.5
114	53	James Burrough	103	—	6.0	5.8	9.4
340	188	Robert Jenkins	320	—	27.0	8.4	5.4
24	9	Twinlock Ord	16½	—	—	—	—
82	54	Twinlock 12% ULS	77	—	12.0	15.5	—
81	54	Unilock Holdings	81	—	7.0	8.6	10.0
99	67	Walter Alexander	99	—	6.4	6.4	7.3

COPPER: Cash wire bars lost £6.25 and three months was £6.50 higher.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £665-66 a metric ton; three months, £677.50-78.00. Sales, 3,000 tons. Cash cathodes, £655.50-54.50; three months, £668-69. Sales, 150 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £661-64.50; three months, £676.50-77.00. Settlement, £664.50. Sales, 1,550 tons. Cash cathodes, £655.50-56.50; three months, £669-69.50. Settlement, £655.50. Sales, 800 tons. **SILVER** was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 283.4p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 541.7); three months, 288.4p (551.5c); six months, 294p (561.9c); one year, 306.6p (585.1c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 282.9-83.1p; three months, 288.1-88.2p. Sales, 67 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 282.8-83.0p; three months, 288.1-88.2p. Sales, 69 lots. **TIN** was sharply lower, standard cash losing £170 and three months £135.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,860-70 a metric ton; three months £5,865-70. Sales, 1,300 tons. High grade, cash, £5,860-70; three months, £5,865-80. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £5,945-6,000; three months, £5,960-70. Settlement, £6,000. Sales, 1,280 tons. High grade, cash, £5,950-6,000; three months, £5,960-75. Settlement, £6,000. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M1,592 a picul. **LEAD** was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £310-311 per metric ton; three months, £314-14.50. Sales, 1,300 tons. Morning.—Cash, £311-11.50; three months, £315-15.50. Settlement, £311.50. Sales, 1,600 tons. **ZINC** was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £285-86 a metric ton; three months, £288-88.50. Sales, 575 tons. Morning.—Cash, £265.50-66.00; three months, £266.50-67.50. Settlement, £266. Sales, 1,450 tons. All afternoon prices are unofficial. **PLATINUM** was at £119.20 ($228) a troy ounce. **RUBBER** easier (pence per kilo).—April, 48.65-48.90; May, 49-49.30; April-June, 49.30-49.35; July-Sept, 50.80-50.90; Oct-Dec, 53.05-53.10; Jan-March, 53.55-53.40; April-June, 54.65-54.80; July-Sept, 56.85-56.90; Oct-Dec, 57.15-57.30. Sales, 7 lots of 5 tonnes, 519 at 15 tonnes. **RUBBER PHYSICALS** were quiet.—Spot, 48.25-49.25. Cifs, April, 49-49.40; May, 49.25-49.75. **COFFEE:** Robustas were easier; arabicas were dull. **ROBUSTAS** (£ per metric tonne): March, 1,568-70; May, 1,422-25; July, 1,318-19; Sept, 1,273-75; Nov, 1,245-54; Jan, 1,180-1,225; March, 1,200-10. Sales, 2,860 lots including 6 options. **ARABICAS** ($ per 50 kilos): April, 194-96; June, 170-70.50; Aug, 157-58; Oct, 147-50; Dec, 135-40; Feb, 130-36; April, 120-36. Sales, 14 lots. **PALM OIL** was dull.—March, unquoted; April, £320-50 per metric ton; May, June, July, Aug, £300-40; Sept, £290-330; Oct, £290-330; Nov, £280-330. **COCOA** was steady.—March, £2,000-per metric ton; May, £1,890-92; July, £1,820-30; Sept, £1,787-90; Dec, £1,730-35; March, £1,680-1,700; May, £1,650-60. Sales, 3,454 lots including 51 options. ICCO prices: daily, 154.47c; 15-day average, 143.38c; 22-day average, 137.32c (US cents per lb). **SUGAR** futures were steady. The London daily price of "raws" was £1 lower at £96; the "whites" price was £1 lower at £100.—May, £100.50-01.00 per metric ton; Aug, £105.60-05.65; Oct, £108.50-08.75; Dec, £112-12.10; March, £118.30-18.50; May, £121.50-21.60; Aug, £124.75-25.00. Sales: 3,658 lots. ISA prices: 7.40c; 15-day average 8.02c. **SOYABEAN MEAL** was easier.—April, £117-17.50 per metric ton; June, £116.50-16.80; Aug, £116.50-16.60; Oct, £111-14; Dec, £109-10; Feb, £109.50-12.00; April, £109-14. Sales: 131 lots.

Commodities

WOOL.—Greasy futures were steady (pence per kilo).—March, 218-21; May, 225-27; July, 230-33; Oct, 232-35; Dec, 235-38; March, 236-40; July, 236-42. Sales, nil. **JUTE** was steady.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, afloat, $485 per long ton. "D" grade, afloat, $485. Calcutta was steady.—Indian, spot, Rs575 per bal of 400lb. Dundee Tossa Four, spot, Rs575. **GRAIN** (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring No 1, 13½ per cent: April, £89.50 seller Tilbury. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: April, £81.50; May, £77 trans-shipment east coast. **MAIZE.**—No 3 yellow American/French: March and April, £101.50 trans-shipment east coast sellers. *Kenya grade 3:* April, $118 quoted fob. South African yellow: April, £70 quoted. **BARLEY** was unquoted. All per tonne cif UK unless stated. **London Grain Futures Market** (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was steady. March, £75.25; May, £74.55; Sept, £77.40; Nov, £79.90; Jan, £82.55. Sales: 132 lots. **WHEAT** was steady. March, £85; May, £86.70; Sept, £82.70; Nov, £85.50; Jan, £87.70. Sales: 173 lots. **Home-Grown Cereals Authority.**—Location ex-farm spot prices.—

	Other Milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. Lincs	£90	£81 30	£71.70
Wilts	—	—	£71.30

MEAT COMMISSION: *Average fatstock* prices at representative markets on March 16.—**GB:** Cattle 64.93p per kgLW (+0.55). **UK:** Sheep 144.1p per kgestdcw (+9.4). **GB:** Pigs 61.4p per kgLW (+0.3). **England and Wales:** Cattle numbers up 5.0 per cent, average price 65.27p (+0.93). Sheep numbers up 17.3 per cent, average price 144.3p (+1.6). Pig numbers down 3.6 per cent, average price 61.4p (+0.4). **Scotland:** Cattle numbers up 19.9 per cent, average price 64.11p (−0.4). Sheep numbers up 1.3 per cent, average price 142.4p (+8.2). Pigs, nil.

Wall Street

New York, March 16.—Prices drifted lower after opening mixed in light trading on the New York Stock Exchange this morning.

In the news, the Federal Reserve reported a 0.5 per cent rise in February's industrial production, reversing a revised 0.8 per cent decline in January.

On Tuesday prices closed lower as traders became increasingly nervous about rising tension in the Middle East.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off 3.98 points to 758.58, about the same level as was recorded in the first hour of trading, after which it spent much of the day fluctuating within a narrow range.

Declining issues held a slim lead over gainers during most of trading, finishing the day with about a 710 to 675 advantage.

Volume totalled 23,340,000.

	Mar 15	Mar 14
Allied Chem	37⅞	37¾
Allied Stores	19⅞	20
Allied Supermkt	2⅞	2⅞
Allis Chalmers	24⅝	25⅛
Alcoa	39⅞	39⅞
Amax Inc	33⅝	34
Amerada Hess	25	25⅛
Am Airlines	9⅝	9⅝
Am Brands	45⅝	45⅞
Am Broadcast	37⅝	38⅛
Am Can	35⅛	35⅛
Am Cyanamid	24⅝	24⅝
Am Elec Power	23⅝	23⅝
Am Home	26⅝	26
Am Motors	4⅛	4⅛
Am Nat Res	40⅛	40⅞
Am Standard	35⅝	35
Am Telephone	61⅛	61⅛
AMF Inc	16⅛	16⅛
Armco Steel	27⅛	27⅛
Asarco	16⅛	17
Ashland Oil	28⅞	28⅞
Atlntic Richfield	45⅝	45⅞
Avco	22	20⅛
Avon Products	46⅝	45⅝
Babcock & Wcox	59	58½
Bankers Tst NY	35½	35⅞
Bank of America	22⅝	22
Bank of NY	31½	31⅝
Beatrice Foods	22⅞	22⅝
Bell & Howell	19⅞	19⅝
Bendix	33⅝	34⅝
Bethlehem Steel	20⅝	21
Boeing	32⅝	33
Boise Cascade	25⅝	25
Borden	28⅝	28⅝
Borg Warner	25⅞	26⅛
Bristol Myers	30⅝	30⅞
BP	14⅝	14⅝
Budd	32⅝	32⅞
Burlington Ind	18⅞	19⅛
Burlington Nthn	37	37⅛
Burroughs	60⅝	61⅛
Campbell Soup	33⅝	33⅝
Canadian Pacific	15⅛	15⅛
Caterpillar	47⅝	48⅛
Celanese	37⅝	37⅝
Central Soya	13⅝	13⅝
Charter NY	27⅝	27⅝
Chase Manhat	28⅞	29
Chem Bank NY	38⅝	38⅝
Chesapeake Ohio	32⅝	32⅝
Chrysler	11⅛	11⅝
Citicorp	19⅛	19⅛
Cities Service	46⅝	46⅝
Clark Equip	31⅛	31⅛
Coca Cola	37⅞	37⅝
Colgate	20⅝	20⅝
CBS	47	47⅝
Columbia Gas	28⅝	28⅝
Combustion Eng	32⅝	32⅝
Comwlth Edison	27⅝	27
Cons Edison	23½	23
Cons Foods	23⅝	23⅝
Cons Power	23⅝	23⅝
Continental Grp	29⅝	29⅝
Continental Oil	28⅝	28⅝
Control Data	24⅝	23⅝
Corning Glass	48	47⅝
CPC Intnl	45⅝	44⅝
Crane	28⅝	28⅝
Crocker Int	25	25
Crown Zeller	30⅝	30⅝
Dart Ind	36⅝	36⅝
Deere	24⅝	24⅝
Del Monte	23⅝	23⅝
Delta Air	37⅞	37⅝
Detroit Edison	16⅛	16⅛
Disney	32⅝	32⅝
Dow Chemical	23⅝	23⅝
Dresser Ind	38⅝	38⅝
Duke Power	20⅝	20⅝
Du Pont	100½	102
Eastern Air	6⅝	7
Eastman Kodak	42⅝	43⅛
Eaton Corp	34⅝	34⅝
El Paso Nat Gas	15⅛	15⅛
Equitable Life	23⅝	23⅝
Esmark	26⅝	27
Evans P. D.	15⅝	15⅝
Exxon Corp	45⅝	45⅝
Fed Dept Stores	34⅝	34⅝
Firestone	13⅝	13⅝
Fst Chicago	17⅞	17⅝
Fst Nat Boston	26½	26⅝
Fst Penn Corp	16⅛	16⅛
Ford	43⅝	44⅛
GAF Corp	10⅛	10½
Gamble Skogmo	28⅝	28½
Gen Dynamics	41⅝	39⅝
Gen Electric	46⅝	47
Gen Foods	27⅝	28⅛
Gen Mills	27⅛	27½
Gen Motors	59⅝	59⅝
Gen Pub Util NY	19⅝	20
Gen Tel Elec	28⅝	28½
Gen Tire	24⅝	24⅝
Genesco	6⅝	5⅞
Georgia Pacific	25	25⅛
Getty Oil	161⅝	161½
Gillette	26⅝	26⅞
Goodrich	19⅝	19⅝
Goodyear	18⅝	18⅝
Gould Inc	25⅝	25⅝
Grace	25⅝	25⅝
Gt Atlc & Pacific	8⅛	8⅝
Greyhound	12⅝	13
Grumman Corp	16⅝	16⅝
Gulf Oil	25⅛	25⅛
Gulf & West	12⅝	12⅝
Heinz H. J.	36⅞	37⅛
Hercules	13⅛	13
Honeywell	44⅝	44⅝
IC Inds	23⅝	23⅝
Ingersoll	51½	52⅝
Inland Steel	35⅞	36⅛
IBM	240½	242⅝
Int Harvester	28⅝	28⅞
INCO	15	15⅛
Int Paper	38⅝	37⅝
Int Tel Tel	28⅝	27⅝
Jewel Co	18⅝	18⅝
Jim Walter	27⅝	27⅝
Johns-Manville	30⅝	30
Johnson & John	68⅝	69⅝
Kaiser Alumin	30	29⅝
Kennecott	23⅝	23⅝
Kerr McGee	45⅝	45⅝
Kimberly Clark	41⅝	41⅞
Kraftco Corp	45⅝	44⅝
K Mart	24⅝	24⅞
Kroger	27⅝	27⅝
Ligget Group	28	27⅝
L.T.V. Corp	5⅝	5⅝
Litton	16⅝	16⅝
Lockheed	16	15⅝
Lucky Stores	14⅝	14⅝
Manuf Hanover	30⅝	30⅝
Mapco	34⅝	34⅝
Marathon Oil	43⅝	43⅝
Marine Midland	11⅝	12
Martin Marietta	24⅝	24⅝
McDonnell	24⅝	24⅝
Mead	19⅝	19⅝
Merck	51½	52⅝
Minnesota Mng	45⅝	45⅝
Mobil Oil	62⅝	61⅝
Monsanto	46⅝	47⅝
Morgan J. P.	41⅝	41
Motorola	37⅝	37⅝
NCR Corp	42⅝	42⅞
NL Industries	16⅝	16⅝
Nabisco	47⅝	48
Nat Distillers	21⅝	21⅝
Nat Steel	29⅝	29⅝
Norfolk West	26⅝	26⅝
NW Bancorp	22⅝	22⅝
Norton Simon	17⅝	18
Occidental Pet	23⅝	23⅞
Ogden	23⅝	24⅝
Olin Corp	14⅝	14½
Owens-Illinois	19⅝	20
Pacific Gas Elec	24⅝	24
Pan Am	5	5
Penney J. C.	35⅝	35⅝
Pennzoil	33⅝	33⅝
Pepsico	25⅝	25⅝
Pet Inc	35⅝	35⅝
Pfizer	26⅝	26⅝
Phelps Dodge	19⅝	19⅝
Philip Morris	57⅞	58⅛
Phillips Petrol	28⅝	28⅝
Polaroid	24⅝	24½
PPG Ind	26⅝	26⅝
Proctor Gamble	75⅝	75⅝
Pub Ser El & Gas	22⅝	22⅝
Pullman	25	24⅝
Rapid American	7½	7½
Raytheon	34⅝	34⅝
RCA Corp	24⅝	25⅛
Republic Steel	23⅝	23⅝
Reynolds Ind	55⅝	56⅝
Reynolds Metal	28	28
Rockwell Int	30⅝	30⅝
Royal Dutch	58⅝	58⅝
Safeways	37⅝	37
St Regis Paper	25⅝	26
Santa Fe Ind	34⅝	34⅝
SCM	16⅝	16⅝
Schlumberger	65⅝	66
Scott Paper	13	12⅝
Seaboard Coast	31⅝	31⅝
Seagram	22⅝	22
Sears Roebuck	24⅝	24⅝
Shell Oil	31⅝	32
Shell Trans	39	39
Signal Co	30⅝	31
Singer	18⅝	19
Sony	7⅝	7⅝
Sth Cal Edison	26½	26⅝
Southern Pacific	33	33⅝
Southern Rly	46⅝	46
Sperry Rand	34⅝	35⅛
Squibb	23⅝	23⅝
Std Brands	23	23
Std Oil Califnia	38⅝	39
Std Oil Indiana	47⅝	47⅝
Std Oil Ohio	58⅝	59⅝
Sterling Drug	13⅝	13⅝
Stevens J. P.	14⅝	14⅝
Stude Worth	51⅝	50⅝
Sunbeam Corp	16⅝	16⅝
Sun Comp	38⅝	38⅝
Teledyne	74⅝	74⅝
Tenneco	30	30⅝
Texaco	25⅝	25⅝
Texas East Trans	41⅝	40⅝
Texas Inst	65⅝	65⅝
Texas Utilities	20	20
Textron	29⅝	29⅝
TWA	14	13⅝
Travelers Corp	29⅝	29⅝
TRW Inc	34	33⅝
UAL Inc	21	20⅝
Unilever Ltd	36⅝	36⅝
Unilever NV	55⅝	55⅝
Union Bancorp	13	13
Union Carbide	38⅝	38⅝
Union Oil Calif	50	50
Un Pacific Corp	44	43⅝
Uniroyal	7⅝	7⅝
United Brands	6⅝	7
US Industries	7⅝	7⅝
US Steel	26⅝	26⅝
Utd Technol	36⅝	36⅝
Wachovia	16⅝	16⅝
Warner Comm	31⅝	31⅝
Warner Lambert	27⅝	27⅝
Wells Fargo	26⅝	26⅝
West'n Bancorp	31⅝	31⅝
Westnghse Elec	17	17⅝
Weyerhaeuser	23⅝	23
Whirlpool	22	22⅝
White Motor	7	7⅝
Woolworth	18⅝	18⅝
Xerox Corp	43⅝	43
Zenith	12⅝	13

Canadian Prices

	Mar 15	Mar 14
Abitibi	12	11⅝
Alcan Alumin	27⅝	27⅝
Algoma Steel	17⅝	18⅝
Bell Telephone	54	54
Cominco	23⅝	23⅝
Cons Bathurst	26⅝	26⅝
Falconbridge	17⅝	17⅝
Gulf Oil	27⅝	26⅝
Hawker/Sid Can	6.00	6.00
Hudson Bay Min	15⅝	15⅝
Hudson Bay Oil	42⅝	42⅝
Imasco	30⅝	30⅝
Imperial Oil	19⅝	19⅝
Int Pipe	14	14
Mass.-Fergsn	10⅝	10⅝
Royal Trust	16⅝	16⅝
Seagram	25⅝	24⅝
Steel Co	23⅝	23⅝
Talcorp	9⅝	8½
Thomson N 'A'	12⅝	12⅝
Walker Hiram	31⅝	31⅝
WCT	32⅝	32⅝

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 1.9045 (1.9045); three months, 1.9040 (1.9045); Canadian dollar, 89.06 (88.92).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was off 1.26 at 358.69. The futures index was

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 758.58 (762.56); transportation, 206.20 (205.10); utilities, 106.50 (106.19); 65 stocks, 266.91 (267.49). New York Stock Exchange index, 49.65 (49.75); industrials, 52.95 (53.12); transportation, 39.00 (39.01); utilities, 39.43 (39.36); financial, 51.34 (51.33).

CHICAGO GRAINS.—Wheat futures finished the session with gains of 4¼ to 5¼ cents. WHEAT.—March, 280c; May, 288¼-88c; July, 292¼-92c; Sept, 297c; Dec, 304¼-06c; March, 310¼-12c. MAIZE.—March, 240-40¼c; May, 244-43¼c; July, 245¾-46¼c; Sept, 247¼-48c; Dec, 250¾-49¼c; March, 258-58¼c. OATS.—March, 151¼c; May, 138¼-39c; July, 143¼-¼c; Sept, 146c; Dec, 150¼c.

Gold loses ground

GOLD closed lower.—NY COMEX: March, $183.10; April, $183.70; May, $184.90; June, $186.30; Aug, $189.00; Oct, $191.70; Dec, $194.40; Feb, $197.10; April, $200.20; June, $203.30; Aug, $206.30; Oct, $209.30; Dec, $212.50. CHICAGO IMM: March, $185.40 bid; June, $186.80-186.30; Sept, $190.60-190.20; Dec, $194.90-194.60; March, $198.90; June, $203.00; Sept, $207.30; Dec, $212.50. **SILVER** closed up to 2.10c higher.—*March, 540.60c; April, 541.90c; May,* 545.80c; July, 553.80c; Sept, 561.80c; Dec, 574.20c; Jan, 578.20c; March, 586.60c; May, 595.00c; July, 603.50c; Sept, 612.10c; Dec, 624.90c; Jan, 630.10c. Handy and Harman of Canada, $6.111 ($6.155). **COPPER** closed steady.—March, 59.70c; April, 60.00c; May, 60.50c; July, 61.50c; Sept, 62.50c; Dec, 64.00c; Jan, 64.50c; March, 65.50c; May, 66.50c; July, 67.50c; Sept, 68.50c; Dec, 70.00c; Jan, 70.50c. **SUGAR** futures finished 0.04 to 0.15-cent higher in an extension of yesterday's rally from seasonal lows. May, 7.66-67c; July, 8.00-04c; Sept, 8.25-26c; Oct, 8.38-39c; Jan, 8.65-80c; March, 9.18-22c; May, 9.44-50c; July, 9.65-69c. **COCOA** futures closed with losses of 3.00 cents in nearby May to 1.45 cent in July, 1979. March, 165.15c; May, 156.25c; July, 151.15c; Sept, 147.85c; Dec, 142.65c; March, 139.45c; May, 137.75c; July, 136.05c. **COFFEE** futures slid lower in the afternoon on commission house and local selling to close 2.87 to 1.00 cents lower. March, 180.75-1.00c; May, 155.50-76c; July, 143.38c; Sept, 137.75-8.50c; Dec, 125.50c; March *123.00c; Mar, 118.50c; July, 117.50c.* **COTTON** closed steady on estimated sales of 155,000. May, 58.35-45c; July, 59.50-65c; Oct, 60.55c; Dec, 61.25-30c; March, 62.10c; May, 62.50-85c; July, 62.90-3.50c. **CHICAGO SOYABEANS.**—Soyabean futures closed two cents a bushel lower to three cents higher. SOYABEANS.—March, 668c; May, 677-75c; July, 686-82c; Aug, 682-81c; Sept, 654c; Nov, 617-15c; Jan, 625-24c; March, 632c. SOYABEAN OIL.—March, 26.85-90c; May, 26.05-25.95c; July, 25.65-60c; Aug, 25.25-30c; Sept, 24.55c; Oct, 23.20c; Dec, 22.80-75c; Jan, 22.65-60c; March, 22.55-60c. SOYABEAN MEAL.—March, $175.50; May, $176.00-6.50; July, $177.50; Aug, $177.00-8.00; Sept, $170.00-0.50; Oct, $165.50-4.00; Dec, $164.50-5.00; Jan, $165.50; March, $166.00-7.00.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar ended a quiet but nervous selling day yesterday lower against most major currencies. Sterling finished with a ¼ cent gain at $1.9145 compared with $1.9070 overnight. The trade weighted exchange index ended unaltered at 64.3.

With pressure maintained on the *dollar for much of the session* the market mood remained unsettled. The Swiss franc was particularly strong against the dollar closing at 1.8775, compared with 1.9350 overnight. After tumbling to another "low" against the yen at 232.00 the dollar was able to edge off this position, but still stayed extremely shaky at 232.05 compared with 233.00.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) March 16	Market rates (close) March 16
New York	$1.9070-9160	$1.9140-9150
Montreal	$2.1400-1550	$2.1500-1510
Amsterdam	4.13½-17½fl	4.17½-16½fl
Brussels	60.40-65f	60.55-65f
Copenhagen	10.69-75k	10.70½-71½k
Frankfurt	3.88½-91m	3.90½-90½m
Lisbon	77.60-05.50e	77.65-75e
Madrid	152.35-90p	152.65-75p
Milan	1,628-40lr	1,630-35lr
Oslo	10.13-19k	10.14½-17½k
Paris	9.06½-9.09½f	9.08½-09½f
Stockholm	8.80½-83k	8.81½-82½k
Tokyo	440-50y	[illegible]
Vienna	27.95-28.05sch	27.95-28.05sch
Zurich	3.58½-61f	3.58½-59½f

Effective exchange rate compared to december 21, was 64.3 per cent, unchanged.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.02c prem-.08c disc	.05-.15c disc
Montreal	.05-.15c disc	.30-.50c disc
Amsterdam	¼c prem-¼c disc	½-1½c prem
Brussels	par-10c disc	10c prem-par
Copenhagen	5-7ore disc	15-20ore disc
Frankfurt	1-½pf prem	1½-2½pf prem
Lisbon	45-150c disc	175-450c disc
Madrid	75-150c disc	200-330c disc
Milan	7-13lr disc	25-32lr disc
Oslo	5½-7ore disc	14-16ore disc
Paris	3½-5½c disc	5½-6½c disc
Stockholm	2-5ore disc	5½-7½ore disc
Vienna	par-10gro disc	5-15gro disc
Zurich	2½-1½c prem	6½-5½c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar) [illegible]

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls 6¼-7, seven days, 6¾-7, one month, 6¾-7⅛, three months, 7-7⅛, six months, 7⅛-7¼.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $185.75 (an ounce); pm, $184.25.

Krugerrand (per coin): non-resident, $190-191 ([illegible]); resident, $191-192 ([illegible]).

Sovereigns (new): non-resident, $56½-58½ ([illegible]); resident, $56½-58½ ([illegible]).

Discount market

The Bank of England was required to give the market an exceptionally large amount of assistance to relieve the substantial credit shortage on Lombard Street yesterday. The Bank bought a very large amount of Treasury bills, a small number of local *authority bills, and a very large* amount of "eligible" bank bills directly from the houses.

Part of this help was provided on a repurchase basis, the houses undertaking to buy back the bills at a later, undisclosed, date. The assistance was reckoned to have been more than sufficient on a day when money *failed to show* in any volume until near the close.

Houses paid up to 6½ per cent, or thereabouts for funds during the day.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 6½%
(Last changed 6/1/78)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 6½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 6½ Low 6
Week Fixed: 6¼-6½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	5⁹⁄₁₆	2 months	5⅞
3 months	5⅞	3 months	5⁹⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) / Trades (Dis%)

2 months	6¼-6⅛	3 months	6¾
3 months	6¼-6⅛	4 months	6¾
4 months	6¼-6¼	6 months	7¼
6 months	6⅝-6½		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	6¼-6¼	7 months	6¾-6½
2 months	6¼-6¼	8 months	6¾-6½
3 months	6¼-6¼	9 months	7¼-6¾
4 months	6¼-6¼	10 months	7¼-6¾
5 months	6¼-6½	11 months	7¼-6¾
6 months	6¼-6½	12 months	7¼-7¼

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	6¼-6⅛	6 months	6¾-6⅝
3 months	6¼-6⅛	12 months	7¼-7⅛

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	6¼	3 months	6¾
7 days	6¼	6 months	7¼
1 month	6¼	1 year	7¼

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 6½-6½ Close 5

1 week	6¼-6¼	6 months	7¼-7
1 month	6¼-6⅝	9 months	7¼-7¼
3 months	6¼-6⅝	12 months	7⅜-7¼

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 7¼ 6 months 7⅝

Finance House Base Rate 7%

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

[illegible]

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Automated Sec 8% Cnv Pf (£1)	136
Bedfordshire Var. Rate 1983 (£100)	£104½
Do Variable 1983 (£100)	£100¼
Mid Sussex Wtr 7% 1983 (£ a)	1½ prem
Pearson S. 10% Pref Cnv 1993-95	£104
Thameside 10% 1984-85 (£98½)	£51¼
Do Variable 1983	£100¼
York 9% 11% 1986 (£79½)	£25¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
CH Industrials (20)	Mar 31	5 prem
Com Bnk Aust ($A1 75)	Mar 10	125
Milbury (50)	Apr 7	2½ prem
Walmough (62)	Mar 20	15 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £10 paid. b £30 paid. c £15 paid. d £50 paid. e £25 paid. f Fully paid. g £11 paid. h £55 paid. i £45 paid. j £60 paid.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Firm at the close

هكذا من الأصل

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
"Afore ye go"

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 13. Dealings End, March 31. § Contango Day, April 3. Settlement Day, April 11

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

DOLLAR STOCKS

AUSTRALIANS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

C — E

F — H

I — L

M — N

O — S

T — Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 16.03.78 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1959):—

	Index No.	Div. Yield	Earnings Yield	Index No.
	Latest	%	%	Previous
The Times Industrial Share Index	194.87	6.81	12.78	194.53
Largest Coys.	198.15	6.59	12.16	197.80
Smaller Coys.	184.38	7.52	14.76	184.69
Capital Goods	227.36	7.02	14.54	227.28
Consumer Goods	200.39	7.17	13.56	200.74
Store Shares	171.69	6.37	8.17	169.37
Largest financial shares	219.13	5.84	—	218.89
Largest financial and industrial shares	202.15	6.44	—	201.62
Commodity shares	217.28	3.79	13.87	220.43
Gold Mining shares	292.76	8.54	17.07	300.62
Industrial debenture stocks	94.98	6 26	—	94.92
Industrial preference stocks	60.80	11.57	—	60 81
3½% War Loan	35½	9.77	—	35½

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High	Low
All-time	222.68 (14.09.77)	98.18 (27.12.74)
1978	200.15 (08.01.78)	184.83 (02.03.78)
1977	222.68 (14.09.77)	151.28 (12.01.77)
1976	171.65 (08.06.76)	115.82 (27.10.76)
1975	156.92 (19.11.75)	97.42 (06.01.75)
1974	136.18 (28.12.74)	93.28 (12.12.74)
1973	188.35 (12.01.73)	129.89 (14.12.73)

a Ex dividend. b Ex all. c Reverse dividend. e Corrected price. f Interim payment passed. g Price at suspension. h Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. k Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Prices adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.



—Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial—Temporary & Part Time Vacancies—

LA CREME DE LA CREME

THAMES TELEVISION

A secretary is required for the above Company to work at their Euston Studios for the Head of Sport.

The successful applicant will be required to have at least two years experience working at senior executive level. Minimum shorthand typing speeds of 120/60 wpm respectively and interest in sport without a commitment to production participation. Salary £3.511 pa. Interesting vacancies also in other programme areas.

Apply in writing to The Senior Staff Relations Officer, Thames Television, 306-316 Euston Road, London NW1 3BB.

THAMES

NON-SECRETARIAL

MEDINA

Fashion conscious and experienced Stockkeeper/Sales Assistant required to divide their time between our established fashion shop in SW1 and our new shop opening shortly in SW3. Good pay and generous discount for Please ring Denise 828 2191

Sales/Typist/ Receptionist

Required for Savile Row Shirt Shop. Interesting job for experienced person or trainee. Must be well spoken. Age not important. Monday to Friday. Excellent salary, etc. Please apply BURLINGTON SHIRT COMPANY 25 Savile Row, W.1 01-734 3656

RECEPTIONIST/FILMS SW1

Film company needs a bright receptionist typist (PBX3) who is interested enough to train as a P.A. in the future. £3,000. Call Lizzie at ADventure 439 8993

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY PROFESSIONAL

INTERVIEWER/ MANAGER/ESS

for a new West End office. Salary £3,750 to £4,750; good commission, pension, luncheon vouchers, medical insurance. Preferably a mature person (30 to 35) with many years' experience of West End temp and perm business.

Apply: J. A. Perriam, Chairman, Alangate Group Specialist Employment Agencies, 6 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5DG, or phone my Secretary on 01-405 7201.

EXPERIENCED SENIOR SALES ASSISTANTS

Required to run Jewellery Concession in exclusive Knightsbridge Store. Excellent salary *and commission*. Good discounts.

RING 01-749 0273

COPY TYPIST, English mother tongue, required by Libyan news-agency based in the City. Speeds 60 w.p.m. Attractive salary and conditions.—Phone 353 9260.

CHELSEA ESTATE AGENT seeks experienced negotiator, friendly office, attractive prospects.—Tel. 352 9434.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AGENCY need self-motivated person with advertising photo studio background as consultant/interviewer. — 439 1821.

RECEPTIONIST / TELEPHONIST / Typist for high class furnishing showrooms in Mayfair, small PMBX. accurate typing rather than speed, good salary according to age and experience. Telephone: 499 4327.

BOOK PUBLISHING—Editors, Picture Researchers, Designers, and Studio Manager. See Gen. Vacs.

BRIGHT AND CHEERFUL, experienced waitress for small luxury hotel restaurant in South Ken.; 5 evenings per week.—Phone Pandora 01-370 6701.

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY REQUIRED

for small Film Production Company in the West End. The position would probably be most suitable for a person around 35 years of age. Salary c. £3,300.

TEL. DEBBIE AT 01-493 8293

Advertising Agency in COVENT GARDEN requires RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

Must have good typing, some office duties involved, friendly atmosphere, salary negotiable. Ring Denise 01-836 9814.

ALPINE SPORTS

required an experienced young P.A. to assist their Financial Director in their luxury offices in S.E.1. The job entails initially accurate typing ability, head for figures and sense of humour. Excellent salary negotiable.

RING JULIAN ON 01-337 3346

MEDIA DIRECTOR.—Advertising group, City, needs strong PA/Sec. 25'ish. No shorthand, but must have really good typing. Relaxed, but very busy active group combining fun with business, must be responsible and able to hold the reins. Around £4,000 p.a. L.V's, fringe benefits. JOYCE GUINESS STAFF BUREAU. 589 8807/0010.

PA/SEC, 28+, some shorthand, for Director handling Ancient Manuscripts, W.1. £3,500 p.a.—Stella Fisher Bureau, 110 Strand, W.C.2. 836 6644. (Also open Sats., 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.)

£2.40 P.H. with speeds of 100/60 enjoy senior City/West End assignments. Crone Corkill (Consultants). 628 4835 or 437 1126.

GRADUATES/College leavers. Some sec. skills. Temp posts to 170p. Tuison Staff Bureau. 734 0108.

PUBLISHING SECRETARIES, are you on our books? Covent Garden Bureau, 55 Fleet St., E.C.4. 353 7696.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS. Permanent temporary positions.—AMSA Agency, 01-734 0532.

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY FOR ARCHITECTS

Experienced, shorthand, typing, telex (will teach). 'A' level French, German sometimes useful. To join team working on European project. £3,000 negotiable.

Telephone 01-486 4761 Priscilla Trench, or write with details to: DENYS LASDUN REDHOUSE, & SOFTLEY 50 Queen Anne's Street, London W.1.

MAYFAIR P.A. SECRETARY

At young MD's group office. If good and cheerful, please telephone

Penny, 01-491 3030

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

required to work with the Director of Education of The Royal College of Nursing. The work involves a range of secretarial and administrative duties and includes the servicing of committees. Candidates must have wide secretarial experience and a good shorthand speed and they should be capable of communicating well at all levels. Possession of a degree or equivalent qualification, while not essential, would be an asset. Salary scale £3,798-£4,653 inclusive of London waiting and supplements. The post is based in central London and there is a contributory superannuation scheme. Letters of application, giving details of experience, qualifications and age to the Personnel Officer, Royal College of Nursing, Henrietta Place, London W1M 0AB.

ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN Art Department

A secretary/assistant is required for the newly appointed officer responsible for commissions, placing of works of art. The job will require normal secretarial skills as well as a willingness to take on the responsibility for building up a comprehensive record system.

Salary £3,098 (under review), 4 weeks holiday. Write with full details to: The Establishment Officer, 105 Piccadilly, London, W.1, to arrive not later than 31st March, 1978. Please quote reference number A.C.2.

National Society for Cancer Relief SHORTHAND SECRETARY

required for Deputy Chairman. Hours 9.30-5, 4.30 Fridays. L.V.'s, 4 weeks' holiday p.a. Please telephone Admin. Secretary on

402 8125

or write to 30 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QL.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

BRITISH SECTION

requires full-time Secretary. First rate typing/shorthand skill necessary. Interest in International Affairs helpful. Salary from £3,459. Telephone Lindsay Stewart 01-836 5621 for application form.

DESOLATED

busy Knightsbridge private General Practitioner abandoned by secretary in favour of marriage. Young secretary, preferably early 30's sought to start in April. Medical experience not essential as two other secretaries and a nurse are in the practice. Handwritten applications to 3, Basil St., SW3 1AU.

FILM/TV COMPANY, specializing in international sports output, seeks a Production Secretary/Production Assistant. Essential qualifications: experience in film and/or TV to level of being able to work unsupervised, particularly in post-production; good secretarial skills. Additional advantages: experience in promotions or packaging of concepts for TV; interest in professional sports, particularly golf and tennis.—Box 0634 K, The Times.

SECRETARY with good shorthand and typing required for friendly team of architects. Cooking skills an advantage. Good salary and 4 weeks holiday. Offices near the Haymarket. Please ring 01-839 1106.

ESTATE AGENTS *need smart, efficient,* secretary for small, busy office. Wandsworth High St. Friendly atmosphere. Varied, interesting work. 870 2196.

TEMPS, TEMPS, TEMPS. Best jobs. Top rates. Graduates, Girls/Men.—Phone Jill Lewis, on 01-437 0811.

"A" LEVEL COLLEGE LEAVER. —Sec required by Publishers W.C.2. £2,500 p.a.—Stella Fisher Bureau, 110 Strand, W.C.2. 836 6644. (Also open Sats., 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.)

SECRETARY, 20-30, required by a large architect's practice to look after a partner and his young team in attractively designed offices near Regent's Park. The salary to £4,000 negotiable. Please phone Rosemary Cumming at Richard Sheppard Robson and Partners. Tel.: 01-485 4161.

LABOUR MEMBER of European Parliament requires graduate researcher/secretary. Please state present audio speeds both manual and electric. Box 0726 K, The Times.

TRAIN AS PA to M.D. of small expanding consultancy. College leaver, preferably S/T. Good salary and bonus.—584 1078.

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARIES
THE TIMES
THE SUNDAY TIMES

We have several interesting vacancies in various Editorial, Commercial and Service departments and we are looking for Secretaries with good shorthand and typing skills.
We offer excellent working conditions, over four weeks holiday in your first year, a subsidised staff restaurant, sports and social club and various group discounts.
Salaries are in the region of £2,500 p.a. upwards with a salary increase imminent.
Please telephone or write to:
THE EMPLOYMENT MANAGER, PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 200 GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON WC1X 8EZ. 01-837 1234, ext. 398.

P.A./ADMIN. Coordinator with sec. skills for 3 years industry project involving CBI/TUC. £4,200+. W.1. (280)

PART-TIME shorthand typist for project (280). 3 full days or five days 10-3. £2.25 p.h. W.1.

YOUNG Receptionist/Typist, good telephone manner, for small busy office Maida Vale. Lots of client contact. Good office training given. £2,500 (270)

PART-TIME Sec./Researcher. Good shorthand. Typing at home. Sociological project, E.2. 10-15 hours p.w. £2 p.h. (265)

TRI-LINGUAL English/French/German researcher. Good typing, to build Information Data Bank for marketing dept., Int. Co. near Strasbourg. Interviews London, 22 March. FF4,500 x 13. (266)

Joan Wilkins Appointments
01-286 0115
Recruitment Consultants

ROYAL DOULTON PALL MALL Experienced Audio Secretary

for our Financial Director. £3,500 p.a. + free lunch + +. Very pleasant small head office with happy atmosphere.

Ring: Jillie Steele 01-839 7391

OIL W.1 £4,000

Major American Oil Co., near Selfridges, seeks 3 Secretaries, aged 22-30, bright, well-educated, with good speeds, for information, travel, personnel and sales departments. Salary neg. to £4,000, free lunch and other benefits.

For details please call Premium Secretaries (Staff Cons.), 486 2667 or 486 7877 before 6.45 p.m.

S.W.3 AREA

Varied interesting work for secretary with knowledge of French. Shorthand and typing. Salary negotiable. 4 weeks holiday.

Ring 589 3400

TYPIST/ASSISTANT TO MANAGER

Involving varied work for lively accommodation business with friendly atmosphere, W.11.

Salary: £3,250
Lunch provided
Phone: 229 5526

TURKISH EMBASSY IN BELGRAVIA

require SHORTHAND SECRETARY. Net salary approximately £3,000.

Ring 01-235 5252.

SILVER AND GOLD

TWO SECRETARIES

required by Precious Metals Company, one as Assistant to Jewellery Department Manager and one as Assistant to Silver Sales Representative. Applicants must have good secretarial skills and ability to organize and work on own initiative.

Salaries £3,500 + according to skills and experience.

Write to THE MANAGER, D. PENNELLIER & COMPANY LTD 28 HATTON GARDEN, LONDON EC1N 8DB

Arts Council of Great Britain Art Department

A secretary/assistant is required for one of the Council's Art Officers. The post requires secretarial experience, good shorthand and typing speeds. Some interest in contemporary art and an ability to minute meetings would be an advantage.

Salary £3,098 (under review), 4 weeks holiday. Write with full details to: The Establishment Officer, 105 Piccadilly, London, W.1, to arrive not later than 31st March, 1978. Please quote reference number A.C.1.

QUEEN MARY COLLEGE University of London

Secretary required for Spanish Department. Applicants should have at least A-level or equivalent in Spanish, good shorthand and typing and preferably previous office experience. Salary scale £3,216-£3,799 p.a. (including London Allowance). Superannuation scheme. 6 weeks' annual leave (including Public Holidays). The College is on bus routes and near District and Central Line underground stations. Please apply by letter giving age, education and experience to Miss Ebsulie (T), Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS.

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Telephone 01-388 2648

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MEDICAL SECRETARIES. Shorthand and audio secretaries urgently required: Cardiology, W.1; Private practice, W.1; General Medicine, S.W.1; Surgery, S.W.1. Just a few of our immediate assignments in N.H.S. and private practice. Come and see us also for your permanent job.—Ring Dahlia Gold, 486 6717, Alfred Marks Staff Bureau, 29 Duke St, W.1.

FILM/TV COMPANY specializing in international sports output seeks: (a) Secretary and (b) Shorthand-typist. Essential qualifications for both: good skills and enthusiasm. Additional advantages: interest in professional sports, particularly golf and tennis; experience in film, TV or sports company. 743 7601.

W.8 ART GALLERY. Bookkeeper/secretary. Mature person required to take care of bookkeeping, VAT, PAYE, etc. Some typing/secretarial work. Monday to Friday, 10 to 5.30. Salary to £3,800. Please phone 01-727 1726.

SECRETARIES £2.40 p.h. (min. 110/60) in top City bookings. For the attention only a small Consultancy can offer, call Secretaries Plus, 283 9955.

SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR in small friendly and very professional W.1 advertising agency working primarily on technical/industrial business. This is a senior and responsible position and will be rewarded accordingly.—Ring Valerie Relph on 01-637 7641.

BILINGUAL SECRETARY. English/German required for busy, W.1 buying office, fluency in German essential. Commencing salary £3,500 plus LVs, plus bonus. If you can start immediately, phone on 580 6212 or 4230.

SECRETARY for Director Bond Street Advertising Agency, good speeds shorthand, typing. A busy job working across press, television and radio, salary £3,300 negotiable. Phone Annette Hoare, 01-493 6371.

SECRETARIAL

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The work is varied and interesting. We are looking for someone with the ability to keep things going in their absence, therefore demanding a high degree of personal initiative, self motivation and organizational ability.

In addition to the usual secretarial skills the successful candidate will probably be educated to "A" level standard or equivalent and will have had several years' secretarial experience. Ideally in a scientific medical field.

In return we are offering a salary of up to £3,500, pleasant working conditions, 40p LVs per day and 4 weeks' holiday a year. Hours are 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Friday.

Please contact Diana Helmer, Lepetit Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Heathrow House, Bath Rd., Hounslow, TW5 9QY. Tel. 01-897 6368.

Part-time Vacancies

3 DAY WEEK Secretary for Knightsbridge Architects, will have varied interesting job. 9.15 to 5.30. Salary according to experience. Michell & Partners, 584 5341.

PART-TIME Private Patient's Cashier required 3 days a week at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London, SW3. Telephone Personnel Department on 01-352 8171, ext. 347 for application form and job descriptions. Closing date 31st March, 1978.

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Ring Madeleine White 937 9022

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602 5836

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and Cook needed immediately for an elderly lady in a comfortable Kensington flat. Some nursing experience required. Own 2 rooms and bathroom. Good relief help available. Might suit couple or friends, one following own occupation. *Free board.* Salary *negotiable.* 229 3086 (eves.), 789 0141 (day).

COUPLE OR COOK/ HOUSEKEEPER

required for Wiltshire. Daily help, separate accommodation. C.H. and T.V. Good wages but references essential. Ring Highworth 762354 (after 6 p.m.), charges reversed.

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Very experienced Butler/Driver for Paris. Impeccable references. Bi-lingual English/French. Free to make trips to U.S.A. and Iran.
Please write:

S.C.I.P., 10 Avenue Percier 75008 Paris.
or call Paris 2254352.

ANGEL REQUIRED *to look after* 2 little boys, 3½ and 7 months in large Kensington house, young easy going parents run their own business and want someone to live in, and take sole charge of their children whilst they work in the day. Nursery duties only (daily help kept). Driver essential, and she will have use of car. Generous evenings/weekend free time. Age ideally 23 to 35. Own room, TV, long holidays in Greece. Salary up to £30 p.w. Previous experience working with children essential. Ring Mrs Cookson 01-681 0851 (day) 602 1109 (eves.).

AU PAIR BUREAU PICCADILLY. World's largest au pair agency offers best jobs London or abroad with Social Travel Club facilities at 87 Regent St., W.1. 930 4757 & 533 Oxford St. W.1. 408 1013.

EXPERIENCED NANNY / Mother's Help for British family living near Paris. Three children, aged 3 years, 1½ years and 5 months. Car driver essential. Own room, etc. Other help kept.—Please ring Mrs David Pinckney, Chelmsford (0245) 420948.

HOLIDAY HELPER required for 4 weeks (or longer) from 29th March. Driving and simple cooking. Comfortable homes, London and Hampshire. Indoor heated swimming pool. £25-£30 p.w. —01-352 1854 or 063 527 332.

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Join a family in Long Island during their summer vacation from beginning May through end September, live en famille. Ages of children 13-22. Duties to include laundry, housework and assist with cooking. We are looking for an adventurous, beach loving, adaptable, conscientious young lady of at least 21 years old. All travel expenses will be met. Salary is $225 per month plus full board. For interview please telephone

WOKINGHAM 791079
MON.-FRI. ALL RIGHT
c/o Pauline Oiley, "The Elms", 26 Broad Street, Wokingham, Berkshire.

ITALIAN countryside. May-Oct. Young companion wanted for Italian/English family, with no children. Driving licence essential.—01-370 3790.

CORDON BLEU Cooks required.—See General Vacancies.

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G.C.E. DEGREE and Professional exams. Tuition by post. Free prospectus.—W. Milligan, M.A., Dept. AJ4, Wolsey Hall, Oxford OX2 6PR. Tel.: 0865 54231: 24 hours.

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ALL G.C.E. O & A level courses especially sciences, by expert tutors at Holborn Tutorial College, 47, Red Lion St., Holborn, W.C.1. Apply for prospectus.

DIPLOMA in Television Studies. Television production and direction. Television Training Centre, 23 Grosvenor St., London, W.1. 01-629 2069.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT—
SESSION 1977-78
GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (MONEY)

Notice is hereby given that the Greater London Council (in this notice called "the Council") intend, in accordance with the provisions of the *London Government Act 1963,* to apply to Parliament in the present Session for leave to bring in a Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") for the purposes of which the following is a concise summary:

To regulate the expenditure on capital account and on lending to other persons by the Council during the financial period from 1st April 1978 to 30th September 1979.

To define the purposes for which, and the extent to which, the Council may, during the said period, expend money on capital account.

To define the persons to whom, and the extent to which, the Council may during the said period, lend money.

To provide for an extension of the said period in certain circumstances.

On and after the fourteenth day of April or the first day on which the House of Commons sits after Easter, whichever is the later, a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies thereof may be obtained at the price of fifteen pence each, at the offices of the undersigned.

Dated this 9th day of March 1978.

J. R. FITZPATRICK,
20 Albert Embankment,
London SE1 7SS.
Solicitor and Parliamentary Officer
Greater London Council
(7182)
DYSON, BELL & CO.,
15 Great College Street,
Westminster,
London SW1P 3RX.
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SMOKEY, SMELLY OFFICE, conference room, kitchen? The answer—a Filtair 200 Air Purifier from Lodge Air Cleaning Services.—Details, tel. 573 2270.

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AMBITIOUS Hardworking young man, intelligent and very well educated (eg has passed majority of Law Society's Solicitors Qualifying examinations), seeks responsible and demanding position as administrator/personal assistant, etc. in film, television, radio, theatrical, advertising or publishing industry. Box 1005 K, The Times.

SECRETARY available for weekly bookings at £90 per week.—Tel.: 01-253 7047 (evenings).

PHARMACY GRADUATE seeks fulfilling career. Anything not illegal considered. Box 0813 K, The Times.

AMBITIOUS, ENTERPRISING and responsible young man, 35, currently working in City, seeks job in Hongkong.—Box 1005 K, The Times.

UNQUALIFIED WOMAN FRIDAY with itchy feet: driver, cook; own vehicle; mature; reliable; adaptable.—Box 1212 K, The Times.

CAMBRIDGE GRAD., 27, seeks job in Rio de Janeiro.—589 3664.

FRENCH/ENGLISH translations. Tel. 01-794 2848.

YOUNG MAN, 26, with business experience, smart, intelligent, driver, seeks interesting and financially rewarding position.—Box 1211 K, The Times.

SENIOR LITERARY ACADEMIC, 30, with family, seeks suitable work or post enabling him to return to England. Cambridge, much published, highest possible references and qualifications.—Box 1315 K, The Times.

AUSTRALIAN GIRL, 24 years, who in this short time has graduated music education, published papers music therapy, performed pro. theatre, entertained army Far East, recorded backings Hagley TV. Some knowledge typing French composition copy/arranging, artistic this shot TV film, seeks interesting position arts/media/travel/training.—Write A. Capel, c/o Raynes Park P.O., 1A Amity Grove, London, SW20.

FLAT SHARING

CHISWICK.—Luxurious river house. Professional female, late 20s, careful tenant, car owner preferable. Double room, use of all facilities. £25 p.w. inc., neg. Tel.: 995 3532 (eves.).

2ND PERSON (girl), 20s, to share quiet, beautiful house and garden at 16 Westholm, *Hampstead Garden Suburb,* NW11. Own room, £16 p.w. Ring Ian Thorward, 455 7503.

N.W.1. graduate, share comfortable house. Own room. £65 p.c.m. excl. 267 8544.

MARBLE ARCH. 2 share lux. C.H. flat. £55 p.c.m. each. 723 5635.

FLAT SHARING

PROF. PERSON, Highgate flat, share with one other. Own bed/sitting room. Share k. & b. 3 min. Tube. £15 p.w.—340 2714, after 5.30 p.m.

GIRL SHARE ROOM.—Luxury c.h. Kensington flat; £12 p.w. excl. —373 5776 (after 6).

PUTNEY.—2nd girl share flat; 30-40s; colour TV; £65 p.c.m. incl. —Ring 789 1885.

HYDE PARK CORNER, comfortable rooms, professional people.—235 1567.

NR. NORWOOD JUNCTION. 2 double bedrooms, £10 each, 2 single rooms £12.—771 2499/653 2979.

HAMPSTEAD.—Own large room in clean flat, for mature, tidy and generally brilliant person, mid 20s. £14 p.w. 794 5436.

DELIGHTFUL furnished cottage. Epping Forest, for one person, part sharing. 2 miles Central Line. £50 p.w. Tel.: 01-508 5987, or 01-727 0950.

FLATSHARE, 213 Piccadilly. 734 0318. Professional people sharing.

SHARE A FLAT.—Personal and efficient service for profs. 493 1265.

FLATMATES Specialists. — 313 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 589 5491.

YOUNG MAN wishes share south of river.—0507 7418.

OWN ROOM, house, quiet street close Kentish Town tube/shops. Non-smoking professional. About £14 p.w. 485 5050 after 6 p.m.

W.6.—GIRL, 25/30, own sunny room in large flat, £50 p.c.m. Ring after 5.30 p.m., 603 3721.

SLOANE SQUARE.—Single rooms. £20 p.w. Tel.: 01-730 1175.

W. KENSINGTON. Girl share large room in flat. £46 p.c.m. (inc.). 603 2665.

BLACKHEATH. Accommodation Monday-Friday with breakfast and dinner. £18 p.w. Tel. 253 5037 (day), 858 7470 (eves.).

PROFESSIONAL PERSON required for own large room in musician's house in Kingsbury. £14 excl.—204 8190.

SHARE well-furnished C.H. N.16 house. Couple or 2 girls, under 25. £100 p.c.m. plus bills.—01-294 0532 (eves).

RENTALS

SCOTT GILROY urgently requires luxury furnished flats/houses for their international executives, bankers and diplomats. £45-£450 p.w.—Contact us now on 01-584 7881.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD. Excellent value. 3 bedroom garden flat available now on flexible term. Ideal for family. £120. Around Town Flats, 229 0033.

HOLLAND PK., W.11. Attractive 2 bedroom garden flat avail. 6 mths. while owner is abroad. £80. Around Town Flats, 229 0033.

HAMMERSMITH, W.12.—Extremely attractive 3-bed., 2 recep. house, specially designed k.; garden; parking: £90 p.w.—Marsh & Parsons. 603 9275.

S.W.7.—Luxury 2 bedroom flat. Newly furnished. Near air terminal and Gloucester Rd. tube. Available 3 months. £90 p.w.—352 5523.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE APARTMENTS Ltd. have a large selection of furnished houses and flats in Central London for short/long lets from £50.—Tel. 01-581 3537.

APARTMENTS immediately available, short/long lets; serviced and unserviced.—Central London Luxury Flats Ltd., 937 9798.

BAYSWATER. Beautifully decorated town house in Colonnades, 3/4 bedrooms/study, reception/dining room £165 p.w. Very close all amenities. Telephone 402 4018.

FULHAM, S.W.6. Attractive 2 bed. cottage. Recept/dining, Kitchen. Bathroom, w.c. Patio. Free street parking. C.H. Avail. 1/4/78. 6-12 months: £80 p.w. Willett: 730 3435.

HAMPSTEAD South-facing views across the roof tops to Big Ben from this Third floor flat in a large block. Comfortable reception room, master bedroom, single bedroom, third bedroom, dining room, equipped kitchen, bathroom and cloakroom. Lift, porterage, central heating and constant hot water are inclusive in the rent of £80 p.w. George Knight & Partners 794 1125.

REGENT'S PARK N.W.1. Newly modernized and decorated flat on 8th floor of prestige block. 2 *beds. Large double recept.* kitchen, bathroom, sep. W.C. Lift/porter. Available immediately. Apply Landway Securities, 235 0226.

HYDE PARK, nr. Short let attractive specious ground floor flat. Telephone. C.H., etc. Suit 1 or 2. £55 p.w. 723 0509.

BAYSWATER, W.2. Beautiful flat for 2 people in mansion block off Bayswater Road. Newly furnished, decorated. Bedroom, living/dining room, split level bathroom, fully fitted kitchen inc. new fridge and freezer. £340 p.m. inc.—580 8061.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Luxury serviced flats. 1/2/3 beds. Col. T.V., music centres, long/short let. From £125 p.w.—Aylesford & Co., 351 2383.

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RENTALS

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KENSINGTON/REGENT'S ... Lancaster Gate/Holland ... Luxury flats available ... immediate occupancy ... rooms. From £90 p.w.— ... Bros., 459 0587.

SLOANE SQUARE.—Two ... furnished luxury flats ... ing room, double bedroom ... b. All amenities ... From £100 p.w.—...

KENSINGTON. Attractive ... nished mews cottage ... 2 bed, 2 bath, ... fitted kitchen.—Plaza ... 4372.

HYDE PARK. luxurious ... bed flat, avail now; ... others larger.—Palace ... 486 8926.

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LUXURY serviced apartments ... S.W.1 areas, close to ... Tube station to rent ... letting from £30 p.w.— ... 01-821 1172 3/4.

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HIGHGATE selection 1-3 ... flats to high standard ... Garden. C.H. ... Hunters. 837 7365.

BARONS COURT RD., W. ... furnished compact ... double bed., lounge, k. ... facing convenient ... p.w. Couple only ... Rosecroft Ave., N.W.3.

SLOANE SQ. Elegant ... 2 bedrooms, k. & b. ... incl. C.H. Long let. ...

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PEMBROKE RD. W8. ... dec. 1-bed flat in block ... & porterage. £75 p.w.— ... in London. 581 2216.

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Although first designed for the Autumn, it is the perfect dress to wear comfortably through the Spring and even into early summer. It can be worn with a sweater or shirt underneath on cooler days or just by itself when the weather is warmer. The dress falls in seven flatteringly flared panels from a high yoke with two pockets in the front seams. It has elbow length sleeves and a tab front which can be buttoned to the neck if desired. In our picture our model wears it open at the neck with matching tie belt loosely tied under the collar in a bow. The fabric is 100 per cent viscose challis—easy to wash and care for—and practically uncrushable.

The dress comes in three colourways, all with a black background. The fabric used on the main body of the dress is scattered with small clusters of flowers (mainly pink with touches of russet, ecru and green; mainly blue with touches of pink, ecru and green or mainly deep peach, with touches of blue, russet, ecru and green). The contrasting fabric used on the yoke, collar tab front and cuffs is a larger toning print of pansies and cornflowers.

We have four sizes available, 10 (to 34" bust), 12 (36" bust), 14 (38" bust) and 16 (40" bust). The length from neck to hem is 46 inches. Finally, one of the most attractive features is the price—it is only £12.50.

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Send to: Flower Print Dress Offer, 18 Ogle Street, London W1P 7LG.

Please send me .... flower print dress(es) at £12.50 each. My cheque/PO for .... made payable to Selective Marketplace Ltd. is enclosed. (Please write name and address on back of cheque.)

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RENTALS

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N.W.3 LUXURY FLAT. ... 10 mins. Marble newly decorated 1st floor ... bed. or reception ... separate shower room ... kitchen morning ... 2 rooms ... may be used ... Gas c.h. £100 p.w. ... company, long let. ... today!

Superb Views From Every Room LUXURIOUS RIVERSIDE FLAT

... Totally equipped ... service block. C.H. ... Owner lives nearby. ... 1 year lease renew... 01-788 3040

...'S WOOD. Luxury 5 ... recept., 2 baths. American kitchen. Unfurnished ... carpeted. Overlooking square. Ideal for all ... £275 p.w. excl. for ... Tel. Stephen Cole, Relocation Services, 01-...

... APARTMENTS in Kensington from £100 p.w. Well ... with colour T.V., cleaning, switchboard, Telex.— Collingham Apartments, ... 5300.

... CLAIM to be magicians ... harder to find good ... for good tenants. Telephone to discuss your requirements ... long/short let.—Cullass ... 6347.

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... in prestige block situated in heart of Mayfair.— ... self-furn. flats comprising ... bed., 1 recept., k. & b. ... for rentals of 3/12 ... renewable, from £100 ... 24-hr. porterage, ... floors and c.h., c.h.w. ... of the unique service ... Hampton & Sons. 01-...

... BEDROOM FLAT in ... & b., Garage, c.h. ... incl. for long let. ... after 61.

... & ENGLAND urgently ... furnished houses ... the S.W., N.W. and ... area. Applicants ... national banks, com... embassy's. £175-£350 ... 499 0912, or ... office in ... Hotel.

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... & England, 499 0912.

... GARDENS. S/c mews ... bedroom, 2 ... K. The Times.

... Executive needs luxury ... flat or house, up to ... Usual fees required.— ... & C furn. flat ... 727 3234.

RENTALS

SHORT LETS

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EATON MEWS. Very attractive house. 2 bed., 2 bath., serviced, colour TV. Available for April. £250 p.w.

Tel. Mistral Estate Agency Ltd.

01-741 0190 (weekdays).

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(continued on page 36)

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Broadcasting

Anglia's superb Survival Special tells the story of the Douglas-Hamiltons' life with 500 elephants. As beautiful a film as one expects. The pace and drama of the Professionals again remind us that London Weekend is back for two and a half days. And Ulster Television makes a rare network appearance to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Better late than never, I suppose.—I.R.R.

... Open University: Neo... in Art; 7.05, Odilon ... 30-7.55, Structure of ... 10.45-11.05, You and ... pm, News. 1.00, ... 1.45-2.05, Mr Benn. ... 3.55, Play School. ... 4.25, Jackanory. ... Clangers. 4.55, Crack... 5, Ludwig. ... 5.55, Nationwide. ... The Coyote's ... Goodies. ... Straight. ... at Stake: The Mil... Dollar Children. ... Grand Slam, by ... Parry, with ... Griffith, Windsor ... Sumuru, with ... Avalon, George ... Shirley Eaton. ... Weather.

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University: Modulation; 7.05-7.55, Wealth in Britain. 11.00-11.25, Play School. 4.55, Open University: Social Psychology Laboratory; 5.20, Chemistry of Carbon Compounds; 5.45, Simulation Modelling; 6.10, Invertebrate Nervous System; 6.35, Solubility.

7.00 News Headlines.
7.05 Indoors Outdoors.
7.30 Newsday.
8.10 Heads and Tails 2: A Handful of Sculpture.
8.25 Money Programme: The Dark Side of the Boom.
9.00 Pot Black 78: Dennis Taylor (Ireland) v Doug Mountjoy (Wales).
9.30 Mary O'Hara in concert.
10.15 Horizon: The Hot-blooded Dinosaurs.
11.05 Badminton: John Player All-England Championships.
11.45 News.
11.55-12.05 am, Hugh Dickson reads from The Family Reunion, by T. S. Eliot.

Thames

11.54 am, Felix the Cat. 12.00, Song Book. 12.10 pm, Rainbow. 12.30, Look Who's Talking. 1.00, News. 1.20, Help! 1.30, Money-Go-Round. 1.55, Beryl's Lot (r). 2.25, Film: Great Catherine, with Peter O'Toole, Zero Mostel, Jeanne Moreau, Jack Hawkins. 4.15, Snacker. 4.45, Magpie. 5.15, Emmerdale Farm. 5.45 News. 6.00, Thames at 6. 6.35 Crossroads.
(r) repeat.

London Weekend

7.00 Mind Your Language.
7.30 Mixed Blessings.
8.00 Survival: The Family That Lives with Elephants (r).
9.00 The Professionals.
10.00 News.
10.30 Police 5.
10.40 When Irish Stars are Shining.
11.40 How to Stay Alive.
12.05 am, Stars on Ice.
12.35 Epilogue.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Indoor League. 2.00, Women Only. 2.25, Film: The Gun and the Pulpit, with Marjoe Gortner. 3.50, Beryl's Lot. 4.15, Thames. 5.10, Weekend. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Day by Day. Scene South East. 6.30, Out of Town. 7.00, London. 8.00, Emergency. 9.00, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, Southern News. 11.40, Boney. 12.35 am, Weather. Epilogue.

ATV

11.55 am, Parsley. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, Indoor League. 2.25, The Sullivans. 3.25, Beryl's Lot (r). 3.50, Stars on Ice. 4.15, Thames. 5.15, Get Some In! (r). 5.45, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.00, London. 8.00, Rafferty. 9.00, London. 10.30, When Irish Stars are Shining. 11.30-12.50 am, Film. Shock, with Vincent Price.

Border

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Nature of Things. 1.00, News. 1.20, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, Cartoon. 2.00, Film: The Third Man, with Joseph Cotten, Orson Welles. 3.50, Southern. 4.15, Thames. 5.15, The Practice. 5.45, News. 6.00, Lookaround. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 8.00, The Bionic Woman. 9.00, London. 10.30, Border Parliamentary Report. 11.00, Granada. 12.00, Film: Hunted, with Edward Woodward. 12.45 am, Border News.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, North-East News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Film: Drop Dead, Darling, with Tony Curtis, Rosanna Schiaffino. 3.50, Southern. 4.15, Thames. 5.15, Mr and Mrs. 5.45, News. 6.00, Northern Life. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 8.00, When Irish Stars are Shining. 9.00, London. 10.30, Sportstime. 11.05, Film: Theatre of Death, with Christopher Lee. 12.40 am, Epilogue.

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, The Nature of Things. 2.25, Kreskin. 2.50, Galloping Gourmet. 3.20, Harriette. 3.50, Beryl's Lot. 4.15, Thames. 5.10, This Is Your Right. 5.15, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, Kick Off. 7.00, London. 10.30, Reports Extra. 11.00, When Irish Stars are Shining. 12.00-12.50 am, Boney.

Westward

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, Cartoon. 2.00, Thames. 2.30, Film: The Secret Heart, with Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon, June Allyson, Lionel Barrymore. 4.15, Thames. 5.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 8.00, The Bionic Woman. 9.00, London. 10.35, Late with Danton. 10.50, When Irish Stars are Shining. 11.50, Night Call. 12.15, Faith for Life.

Yorkshire

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, Betty Boop. 2.00, Film: The Mudlark, with Irene Dunne, Alec Guinness. 3.50, Southern. 4.15, Thames. 5.15, Calendar Sport. 5.45, News. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 8.00, Emergency. 9.00, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30-1.15 am, Film: The Lady Vanishes, with Margaret Lockwood, Michael Redgrave, Dame May Whitty.

Scottish

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, Betty Boop. 2.00, Film: The Mudlark, with Irene Dunne, Alec Guinness. 3.50, Southern. 4.15, Thames. 5.15, Pipes (r). 5.20, Southern. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, The Better Sex. 7.00, London. 8.00, The Six Million Dollar Man. 9.00, London. 10.30, Ways and Means. 11.00, Granada. 12.00, Late Call. 12.05-12.33 am, Blake.

Grampian

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 1.55, ATV. 2.25, Film: The Hour of 13, with Dawn Addams, Peter Lawford, Roland Culver. 3.50, Southern. 4.15, Thames. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 7.30, Jim MacLeod. 8.00, Emergency. 9.00, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, Reflections. 11.35-12.30 am, The Collaborators.

... Stations (BBC1): ... 1.45-2.00 pm, ... 5.55, Transmitters closedown ... 6.20, Wales Today. ... 7.25, Cadwaladr. ... Glawr. 10.15-10.45, ... day. SCOTLAND: 3.20-... Transmitters Closedown. ... Reporting Scotland. ... Conference 78. 10.15-... Merchants of Venison. ... IRELAND: 3.20-3.53 ... Closedown. 3.53-... Ireland News. 5.55-... Around Six. 6.45-6.40, ... Cup Final. 10.15-... Evening at the Riverside. ... 10.15-10.45 am. East. ... Midlands. A Carnival of ... Let the People Talk. ... Lord Shinwell. North ... Edwards. South. ... South West. Ward ... West. The Past Around ...

... 1.20 pm, West ... 1.25, Wales Headlines. ... 2.25, Film: Lett... with Ian Carmi... Sim. 4.15, Thames. ... Nemo. 5.20, South... Report West. 6.15, ... 6.30, Emmerdale... London. 8.00, When ... Shining. 9.00, London Report Extra. 11.05 ... Film: Joan Greenwood ... Hordern in Girl Stroke ... CYMRU/WALES. As HTV ... 1.25 pm, Penawdau ... Y Dydd. 4.15-4.45, ... 6.00-6.15, Y Dydd. ... Agriculture. HTV ... HTV except: 1.20-1.30, ... 6.15-6.30, Report ...

... 1.25 pm, Anglia ... Thames. 2.25, Film: ... Who Pawned Her Harp. ... Armour, Diane Cilento. ... Town. 4.20, Thames. ... Dara. 5.45, News. ... Anglia. 6.35, ATV. ... 10.30, Probe Special. ... Irish Stars are Shining. ... Nine (r). 12.45, ... Matter.

... Channel News. 1.30, ... 1.55, Cartoons. 2.00, ... Film: The Secret ... Thames. 6.00, Report ... ATV. 7.00, London. ... Bionic Woman. 12.20 ... When Irish Stars are ... 1.50, Nightcall. 12.20

... 1.20 pm, Lunch... Thames. 1.55, Cartoon. ... The Mudlark, with Irene ... Guinness. 3.50, South... 5.15, The Flint... News. 6.00, Ulster ... 6.05, Crossroads. ... 6.30, Police Six. ... 8.00, When Irish ... Shining. 9.00, London. ... 10.35, Sportscast.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News; Ray Moore.† 7.02, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Simon Bates. 11.31, Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm, Tony Blackburn. 4.31, Dave Lee Travis. 7.02, Syd Lawrence and His Orchestra.† 8.02, Leon Young.† 8.45, Music Night.† 9.55, Sports Desk. 10.02, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† Stereo.

2

6.00 am, News. 6.02, Ray Moore.† 7.32, Terry Wogan.† (8.27, Racing bulletin.) 10.02, Jimmy Young.† 12.15 pm, Waggoners' Walk. 12.30, Pete Murray.† 2.30, David Hamilton.† 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, Nick Page.† 6.45, Sport. 7.02, Radio 1. 10.02, Treble Chance. 10.30, Let's Go Latin. 11.02, Brian Matthew. 12.00, News.

3

6.55 am, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.05, Suppé, Balakirev.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Prokofiev, Rubinstein, Rachmaninov.† 9.00, News. 9.05, John Bull.† 9.35, BBC Concert Orchestra: Elgar, Delius, Buxton, Sullivan.† 10.35, Young Artists' recital: Handel, Beethoven, Dvorak.† 11.30, In Short. 11.40, Hindemith, Mendelssohn, Dukas.† 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, Playbill.† 1.20, Chamber Concert: Purcell, Dickinson, William Williams, Blow.† 2.10, Royal Repertoire, Delibes.† 4.00, Ives's Second Symphony.† 4.45, The Young Idea.† 5.45, Homeward Bound. 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound. 6.30, Local Arts. 7.00, Music in Principle. 7.30, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, part 1: Mozart.† 8.05, Dada into Surrealism: Tristan Tzara and Philippe Soupault interviewed in French. 8.25, Concert, part 2: Strauss.† 9.15, I Knock at the Door, by Sean O'Casey.† 10.15, Hungarian Regional Songs and Dances.† 10.45, Music Now. 11.25, News. 11.30-11.35, Schubert Song.

4

6.15 am, News. 6.17, Farming. 6.35, Up to the Hour. 7.00, News. 7.10, Today. 7.35, Up to the Hour. 8.00, News. 8.10, Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Local Time. 9.35, Popular music. 10.00, News. 10.05, Checkpoint. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, The Making of a Musical, documentary. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, My Music. 12.55, Weather.

1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Here for the Duration (1). 4.00, News. 4.05, Ulster Portraits. 4.35, Story: The Buffalo Soldiers. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.40, Inquire Within. 5.55, Weather.

6.00, News. 6.30, Going Places. 7.00, News. 7.05, The Archers. 7.20, Pick of the Week. 8.10, Unaccustomed as I am... 8.30, Any Questions? 9.15, Letter from America. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.30, Week Ending. 10.55, My Delight, with Robert Rietty. 11.00, A Book at Bedtime: Esther Waters, 5. 11.15, The Financial World Tonight. 11.30, Today in Parliament. 11.40, News. 12.03-12.06 am, Inshore Forecast.

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" He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord."—Psalm 33: 5.

BIRTHS

AKROYD.—On March 15th, to Huldine and David, The Priory, Nun Monkton, York—a daughter (Mathilda Rose).

COX.—On March 11th, at Shrewsbury, to June and Peter—a daughter (Prudence).

CROSFIELD.—On March 15th to Michael and Sally—a son, a brother for Sophie.

FELLOWES.—On 15th March, in Winchester, to Venetia and David—a daughter.

INFANTE.—On March 12th, 1978, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Dee (nee Granfield) and Neri—a son (Niccolo Gianluca Luca).

LEIGH PEMBERTON (DOUGLAS).—On March 16th at St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham, to Lexi (nee Roper) and Nigel—a daughter.

SIMON.—On 16th March to Yvonne and David—a daughter (Miriam Adela), a friend for Loki.

WAGENER.—On 9 March, to Elizabeth (nee Blakey) and Jeremy—a son (Edward Thomas Frank), a brother for Clare, Helen, Louise and John.

WHITTINGDALE.—On March 15th to Siene and Edward—a daughter (Ingrid Elizabeth).

MARRIAGES

FOLEY-McGOWAN.—On March 16th, in Bristol, John Dominic Foley, only son of the late Mr C. P. Foley and Mrs Foley, to Helena Frances, daughter of Dr and Mrs G. K. McGowan.

MARRIAGES

SIMPSON : MARTIN.—On Thursday, March 16, at Exeter, John Harold Simpson to Ann Hedley Martin (nee Scurfield).

DEATHS

ASHFORD.—On 15th March, 1978, peacefully in hospital, Lilian Winifred, aged 82 years, of 301 Copse Hill, West Wimbledon, S.W.20. Dearly loved wife of Bert. Cremation at the South London Crematorium, Rowan Road, S.W.16, on Tuesday, 21st March, at 2.30 p.m. No flowers, please. Donations if desired to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, c/o Mrs. C. Evans, 161 The Grange, Wimbledon, S.W.19.

BRIDGES.—On 14th March, 1978, peacefully, at home, Agatha Mary (Peggy), nee Harker, aged 85, widow of Haworth Glover. Funeral service at Slough Crematorium, Monday, 20th March, at 11 a.m. Inquiries to Sarjeant, Funeral Directors, Church Street, Slough (20081).

COOMBS.—On 14th March, 1978, in London, Violet Doris, aged 73 years. Funeral service, St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, 11.30 a.m. Tuesday, 21st, followed by cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium, 12.30 p.m. All flowers and inquiries to Harrods Funeral Service, 49 Marlows Road, W.8. 01-937 0772.

DIGBY.—On March 15th, 1978, peacefully, at Dorchester, Pamela, O.B.E., widow of Kenelm Lord Digby, beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral private. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Dorset Branch of the British Red Cross Society, Dorchester. Service of thanksgiving at Sherborne Abbey *on Saturday, 22nd April*, at 12 noon.

DODDS.—On 14th March, 1978, Winifred Helena, at peace after a long illness, aged 81 years.

GRIFFITH, ISOBELLA KATHLEEN, of The Hermitage, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, peacefully, on 15th March, 1978, aged 92 years, beloved mother of Isobel. Funeral Monday, 20th March, 1978. Service Westbury Parish Church, 2 p.m. Interment, Henbury Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Pateman, Bristol.

HENNESSEY.—On March 7th, 1978, peacefully, in Cork, aged 66, Dennis Hennessey, formerly of N.R.D.C. and H.D.L. Donations, if desired, to Cancer Research.

HUDD.—On March 11th, peacefully in her 91st year, in King's Lynn, after long residence in Norwich, Winifred, dearly loved sister of Paula Dimmock and greatly loved aunt of Peter Dimmock and family. Service at St. George's Church, Colegate, Norwich, on Friday 17th, at 2.15 p.m.

JOHNSON.—On the 15th of March, Phyllis Dorrell, widow of S. T. Johnson, late of Sichester. Funeral, St. Mary the Virgin, Silchester, 11.30 a.m., 21st March. No flowers, donations to British Rheumatism and Arthritis Council, 6 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1.

LANE.—On March 15th, 1978, Frances Ailsa, of Astell House, Chelsea, London, S.W.3, wife of the late Captain R. W. Lane, R.N.A.S., mother of Rosemary and Jane. Funeral service at St. Luke's Church, Sydney Street, Chelsea, *on Wednesday, March 22nd*, at 10 a.m. Flowers and inquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 74 Rochester Row, S.W.1. 01-834 4624.

MORGAN.—On March 14th, 1978, peacefully, at his London home, Col. Morgan Guild Morgan. No flowers or letters please. Funeral private.

MORGAN. — On March 16th Reginald, joint founder member of Avon Tin Printers, Bristol, passed away peacefully. Beloved husband of Doris and devoted father of Susan and David. Funeral service Canford Crematorium, Bristol, Tuesday, March 21st, 3 p.m. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, Royal Society for the Blind, c/o Roy Preddy, Funeral Directors, 2 Cossham Street, Mangotsfield, Bristol.

NIEVERGELT.—On 14th March, suddenly, at his home in West Dulwich, Albert Stanley, beloved father of Rupert, Elizabeth, Patricia and the late Lawrence, and much loved grandfather. Funeral private.

SCHOLBERG.—On March 15th, suddenly, at home, Harold Philip Berring Scholberg, aged 72 years, beloved husband of Jean, father of Ninka, John and Sarah and grandfather of Kate and Tom. Cremation at Gorleston, Norfolk, on Monday, 20th March, at 11.30 a.m.

THOMAS-DAVIES.—On 26 February, at Salisbury Infirmary, Rachel Anne (Nancy), aged 71 years. Funeral service took place at St. Thomas's Church, Salisbury, on 3 March attended by *near relatives, followed by cremation.*

TYTLER.—On 14th March, peacefully, at King's College Hospital, London, Margaret Cynthia, aged 64, devoted and dearly loved mother of Graeme and Ruth (Kaye) and much loved grandmother of Katharine, Hannah and *Benjamin. Cremation at Honor Oak Crematorium*, London, SE23, on Monday 20th March at 12 noon. Cut flowers may be sent to W. Uden & Sons Ltd., 775 Lordship Lane, London, S.E.22. Tel. 693 1526.

WARREN.—On 15th March, 1978, at Windygates, Troon, Ayrshire, *David Bruce*, O.B.E., in his 91st year. Beloved husband of Sheena and eldest son of the late Timothy Warren, LL.D. Funeral private. Family flowers only. A memorial service will be held in Glasgow on a date to be announced later.

ZURBRUGG.—On Tuesday, March 14th, 1978, *suddenly, Robert*, beloved husband of Sheila and dear father of Nicholas, Michael, Anthony and Pauline. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Kersey, Saturday, March 18th, at 11 a.m. Flowers to Saunders, Funeral Director, Hadleigh, Ipswich. Tel. 3117, or donations please to Marie Curie Cancer Research.

FUNERALS

BRADSHAW.—The funeral of Laurence Bradshaw, F.R.B.S., A.I.L.A., will take place at Putney Vale Crematorium on March 21st at 3 p.m. Any flowers should reach P. W. Ballard & Sons, 308 Old Brompton Road, S.W.5, by 1 p.m. on that day.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DIAMOND.—A memorial service for the late Master A. S. Diamond will be held at 6.30 p.m on Thursday, 6th April, 1978, at the West London Synagogue, Upper Berkeley Street, W.1.

NICHOLAS.—The Memorial Service for Mr C. P. Nicholas, V.R.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. Consultant Surgeon, at Worcester Royal Infirmary, will take place at Worcester Cathedral at 12 noon on Saturday, 1st April, 1978.

IN MEMORIAM

AITCHISON.—In ever loving memory of Leslie Aitchison, D.Met., who died March 17th, 1973.—R.I.P.

FORBES, MICHAEL THOMAS CHARLES.—On this your sixth anniversary, 17th March, 1972, so sadly missed by the family.—Deo Optimo Maximo.

HARE.—In loving memory of Tom Hare, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.V.S., B.V.Sc., of St. Albans, 8th October, 1895–17th March, 1959.

NOWELL-ROSTRON.—In memory of Sydney Nowell-Rostron, clerk in holy orders, and of his wife, Ella Vivian.

THORNTON, M. N.—To her beloved memory from her children, 17 March, 1970.

WALLIS.—*With treasured memories* of my dearly beloved only child, Tim, and much gratitude for 25 years happiness which ended so tragically, 17th March, 1967. " And life was all the sweeter that he lived, and all the things he loved, more sacred for his sake."

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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28 Margaret St., London, W.1, on Tuesday, March 21st, from 12 noon-1.30 p.m.
You are warmly invited to *meet her there. Her latest book* " I SEEK THE MIRACULOUS " (Sheldon Press), has just been published.
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CHARITY BEGINS at Home on Richmond Hill where seriously disabled ex-Servicemen find peace of mind and security. Please help by donations or legacy. The Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond-upon-Thames, Surrey. Tel. 940 3314.

PHARMACY GRADUATE seeks career.—See Sits. Wanted.

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MAISONETTE convenient Chelsea. See London flats.

CE 3K.—Fine, but whatever happened to Sugarland Express? Butchered by C.I.C. John Focus now. 0233 51263.

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PATRICK, have a glorious day. I love you, Kate.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGES 34 AND 35

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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AND YOU CAN HELP TO SAY WHEN
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Accommodation available. Apply
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ESTHER RANTZEN'S TV Appeal on BBC 1 at 6.35 p.m. on Sunday, 19th March. Please send your donation to help children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus to ASBAH, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Sq. WC1 H9HJ. Tel.: 01-388 1382. Reg. Charity No. 249 338.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST for Harley St. area.—See Sec. Appts.

VIVA the already liberated woman.

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A. The other two, slight air and purging fire are both with thee, wherever I Abide.—G.

EXPERIENCED Production Editor sought.—See General Vacancies.

Bonhams, open Saturday 9.30 a.m.-1 p.m. to receive antiques and fine art for auction and to give free auction estimates. Bonhams, Montpelier Street Galleries, Knightsbridge, London, SW7 1HH. Tel. 01-584 9161.

INTER-FRANCE seek 8 young people.—See Gen. Vacs.

ROYAL WESTERN Yacht Club seeks club manager/ess.—See Gen. Vacs.

VISITING CALIFORNIA 27th March.—See Commercial Services.

MOUSEMAN FURNITURE by Robt. Thompson, 1930.—In " For Sale " today.

PUTNEY-MORTLAKE race abandoned. Why?—See Springtime.

SHROPSHIRE.—Attractive unfurn. farmhouse close town.—See Rentals.

UNIQUE CONVERTED BARN.—See Country Property for Sale.

KENDALL, ALFRED JOHN KENDALL, late of The Angel Inn, The Quay, Harwich, Essex, died at *Tendring on the 5th December*, 1976 (undisposed of residue about £2,000). The Kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Legal Officer, Tendring District Council, Council Offices, Weeley, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

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SHORT LETS? Mistral Estate Agency. See Rentals.

DO YOU WANT to let your flat? See Rentals.

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TEMPO req. Sales Rep. Middle East. See £8,000 plus Appts.

ACCOUNTANT for Commodity Brokers.—See Gen. Vacs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL POSTS.—Post Excavation.—See Gen. Vacs.

COUNTY LIFE.—Senior sub-editor required.—See Gen. Vacs.

MENSA INVITES applications for membership. Please apply to British Mensa Limited (T10), Bond House, St. Johns Square, Wolverhampton WV2 4HA.

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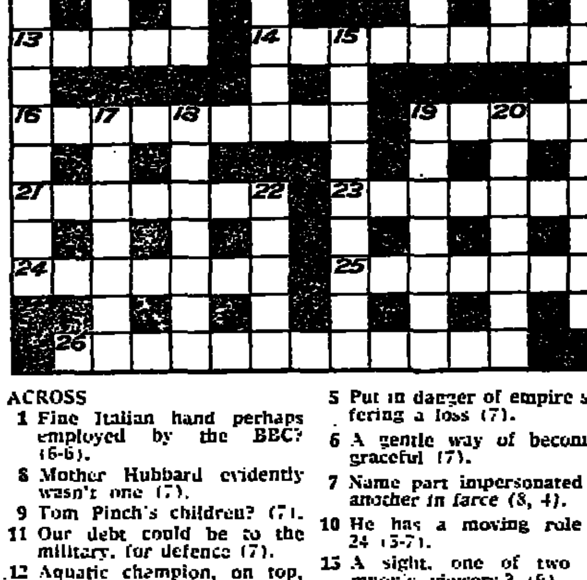
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(continued on page 35)

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,857



ACROSS
1 Fine Italian hand perhaps employed by the BBC? (6-6).
8 Mother Hubbard evidently wasn't one (7).
9 Tom Pinch's children? (7).
11 Our debt could be to the military, for defence (7).
12 Aquatic champion, on top, naturally (7).
13 *On the face of it, aren't we* all? (5).
14 This hanger-on is above kissing! (9).
16 Proverbially not to be made of pigskin (4, 5).
19 One *sort of, bull has* flag with his initial on (5).
21 Some young 'uns can be rich 'uns! (7).
23 Naturists need no runway to do this (4, 3).
24 *Globe, containing* " all the world " (7).
25 Old footwear a little too long for a composer (7).
26 They are evidently not tongue-tied (12).

DOWN
1 Defamation of decapitated Cypriot, for instance (7).
2 Coloured girl in Cornwall (7).
3 Separate watch is *not fully* employed (4-5)
4 Wielded by fairy godmothers in two quarters (5).
5 Put in danger of empire suffering a loss (7).
6 A gentle way of becoming graceful (7).
7 Name part impersonated by another *in farce* (8, 4).
10 He has a moving role in 24 (5-7).
15 A sight, one of two for myopic viewers? (9).
17 Upholder of Holy Writ (7).
18 You'll love me for giving you this (7).
19 More ski trouble? How irritating! (7).
20 If music be the food of love, are these the teeth? (7).
22 This stake is no use as a broomstick (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,856



Pray rush the choice...
(8.4.5) anag.



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Phone Colin Williams on Chester (0244) 603154, or write to him at Cheshire County Planning Department, Commerce House, Hunter Street, Chester, Cheshire CH1 1SN.

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